



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT COUNTY
Incumbent Blue Ridge District Supervisor Billy Martin - R



PHOTO COURTESY OF WALTER MICHAEL
Blue Ridge District Supervisor candidate Walter Michael - R



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT COUNTY
Incumbent Valley District Supervisor Dr. Mac Scothorn - R



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROBERT YOUNG
Valley District Supervisor candidate Robert Young - R

Elections 2023: Botetourt County Board of Supervisors Republican primary candidates

Primary elections take place June 20

Matt de Simone

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This Tuesday, Botetourt County residents in the Blue Ridge and Valley Districts will vote on the Republican candidates for the upcoming Board of Supervisors elections this November. The only offices to be on this June ballot are in those two districts. Voters in these two districts are the only voters eligible to vote in this primary. Polls are open on Tuesday, June 20, from 6 a.m. until 7 p.m.

The Republican candidates appearing on this Tuesday's ballot are current chairman of the county board, Dr. Mac Scothorn (Valley District), who will be opposed by Robert Young (Valley), and incumbent Blue Ridge Supervisor Billy Martin will run against candidate Walter Michael (Blue Ridge).

Both precincts in each district will be open: 201 Blue Ridge (Colonial Baptist Church), 202 Rainbow Forest (new Colonial Elementary School), 501 Troutville (Troutville Elementary School), and 502 Cloverdale (Read Mountain Middle School). Polls open at 6:00 a.m. Tuesday and close at 7:00 p.m. This Saturday, June 17, at 5:00 p.m. is the deadline for early voting.

On May 22, candidates were sent a series of questions pertaining to the county. Their

responses were received and are published verbatim. Each of their responses are listed below.

What is your vision for Botetourt?

BILLY MARTIN: To have a thriving community, to have residents from other communities relocating to Botetourt to live, work, play and visit. I also want us to continue to have excellent Law Enforcement, Fire and EMS coverage for our citizens. I would like to see our excellent school system to continue to excel in their educational process in the county. I would also like to see all our roads and bridges upgraded AND necessary repairs completed by VDOT in a timely manner. Another thing I have been a proponent of is Broadband in every location in Botetourt.

In March of 2019, I took part in the BOS visioning meeting and the following came from that meeting that I agree with: I envision a community where county residents are attaining higher educational and economic goals; are enjoying a quality of life marked by safety and security, environmental protection, quality business and residential development, and a variety of recreational and cultural opportunities; and are pleased with the value and cost of county government services.

With the mission to generate and

allocate revenues and establish policies and regulations in order to pursue public safety and educational goals, protect our environment and quality of life, enhance the local economy, comply with state and federal program mandates, and provide other lawful services desired and supported by county residents.

WALTER MICHAEL: My vision for Botetourt is to better serve the people. During my travels around the Blue Ridge District, the voter's number one issue is taxes. Thus, my overall vision is to eliminate wasteful spending and reduce taxes.

DR. MAC SCOTHORN: In 2045, I want Botetourt County to stand as a testament to the power of energetic, engaged, and excited citizens who have worked together to create an incredible place to live, work, and raise a family.

I want Botetourt to be a vibrant, dynamic community which honors its history while eagerly and deliberately shaping its future. We can continue to do that with a blend of innovative agricultural, commercial, and industrial development, while we carefully protect our historical and natural resources.

I want Botetourt to be the preferred place to live, work, play, and learn in the region, Enhancements in broadband will allow us to do this. Most importantly, I want

us to continue to focus on smart growth and conservation which will ensure a balance between development and preservation of our beautiful landscapes and historical locations.

I want Botetourt to be safe, and I understand that this means we must make a commitment to people and infrastructure to ensure that we continue to enjoy that safety.

To summarize, I want Botetourt to continue to be the kind of place where a family like mine will want to raise their children and grandchildren.

ROBERT YOUNG: Part of the charm of Botetourt County is its small town, rural feel. The current development trajectory is based on adding hundreds of apartments and big chain stores. This is not only transforming Botetourt into a bedroom community for Roanoke but it is also increasing the need for expanded infrastructure with concurrent need for higher taxes. Large chains demand tax breaks to locate here, which also increases the tax burden on individuals. A more measured approach for growth which focuses on small-business development will help keep Botetourt as a jewel of Southwest Virginia.

What do you think are Botetourt

See **Candidates**, page 9



PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

Botetourt County veterans received Quilts of Valor from the QOVF last Saturday in Buchanan.

Quilts of Valor presented to veterans in Buchanan

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The Quilts of Valor Foundation (QOVF) presented 13 quilts to Botetourt veterans in a special ceremony held at the Botetourt Event Center last Saturday in Buchanan. A Quilt of Valor is a civilian lifetime award in recognition for a veteran's service and sacrifice to the country.

Veterans Kevin Brockman,

Michael Burton, Michael Coloton, Pamela Coloton, Glen Dudley, James Eubank, Daniel Garrett, Roy Gross, Roy Hensley, Mason Jordon, Marshall Moore, Thomas Ryan, and James Thrasher each received quilts during the event.

Sirens & Salutes co-founder Bill Price shared his thoughts prior to the veterans receiving the quilts. He thanked the veterans and their families.

"We welcome our veterans here today for protecting a grateful nation," Price said. "Secondly, I'd like to thank the families. When our veterans are walking on the soil of foreign lands, patrolling the oceans, or guarding the skies above, you all stayed home and kept it all together."

Carolyn Zaleski, group leader of Roanoke's Quilts of Valor Stitchers,

See **Quilts**, page 10

Fincastle Town Council tables decision on voluntary boundary adjustments to town zoning ordinance

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Fincastle Town Council met last week at the Fincastle Volunteer Fire Department Training Room. When considering additions to the zoning ordinance, council decided to table discussions in lieu of a public hearing next month.

Last month, Scott Critzer of the Fincastle Planning Commission updated council on their review of town zoning ordinances. He provided maps for council and attendees to review and discussed some of the things of which the planning commission discovered. These adjustments should have been made several years ago, but were never implemented, according to Critzer.

Mayor Mary Bess Smith clarified that when the planning commission made the voluntary boundary adjustments, they agreed whatever outside properties that were brought into the boundaries and whatever properties currently in town, would maintain their zoning classifications and that these additions would not change the existing zoning within the town. Smith went on to explain that the commission worked hard to incorporate Botetourt County's language for

See **Council**, page 10

The Place to be in 2023!

daleville town center

Scan here to Follow us on facebook for complete event schedule, and details.

JUNE 17

Botetourt FARMER'S MARKET

8:30 to NOON

JUNE 17

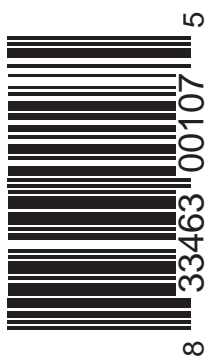
BOCO FOOD TRUCK RODEO

3-9PM

JULY 8

BANANAS AT LARGE

5-9PM



33463 00107 5

Botetourt County History



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT COUNTY MUSEUM OF HISTORY & CULTURE

This dinner plate is part of a “George and Martha Washington Courting” pattern china set. Alan Lee of Troutville donated eight place settings to the Botetourt County Historical Society & Museum in May 2023. The set was a wedding present to his parents in 1946. There are different numbers on the backs of each piece.

- Botetourt County Museum of History & Culture



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOWN OF BUCHANAN

Buchanan hosts RERC workshop July 13 & 14

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, the Northern Border Regional Commission, and the Appalachian Regional Commission have selected Buchanan as a community to receive planning assistance through the Recreation Economy for Rural Communities (RERC) program, which aims to help communities enhance outdoor recreation opportunities and strengthen downtowns. The Town of Buchanan was one of 22 other small communities in the US to be awarded this planning grant.

Citizens are invited to a community workshop on July 13 and 14 to envision how the Town of Buchanan can enhance outdoor recreation to

become more vibrant for its residents, business owners and visitors

To register, visit <https://bit.ly/RERC-BuchananVA>

July 13: Community Meeting - 5:30 PM refreshments, 6-8:30 p.m. meeting

July 14: Action Planning Sessions – 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Location: Wilson Warehouse/Community House, 421 Lowe Street, Buchanan

Questions: Harry Gleason, Community Development Planner, hgleason@buchanan-va.gov

Workshop goals

- Physical Outdoor Recreation and Other Critical Infrastructure

Invest in priority projects for new parks, trails, river access, campgrounds, wayfinding/ signage, and other needed physical infrastructure, so

that residents, visitors, and especially youth can enjoy all that Buchanan has to offer.

- Business and Organizational Support and Connections:

Support existing and new businesses and organizations in the outdoor recreation realm, including hospitality, lodging, retail, and the arts and heritage sectors.

- Authenticity and Downtown Revitalization:

Consider placemaking strategies to make Buchanan’s downtown a pleasant and authentic place to live and visit, with an intent to retain and conserve the culture, character, and small-town charm of Buchanan for existing residents and visitors alike.

- Fincastle Herald staff report

School board holds recognitions for employees, students



Troutville Principal Steven Anderson, BCPS Employee of the Month teacher Madison Lantz, and Valley District board representative Tim Davidick.

Matt de Simone

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The Botetourt County Public Schools (BCPS) School Board recognized teachers and students on their recent achievements at their regular meeting held at the BCPS Administration Offices last Thursday in Fincastle.

The board presented certificates of recognition to their BCPS Employees of the Month, Troutville Elementary School teacher Madison Lantz and Botetourt Technology Education Center (BTEC) Administrative Assistant Angela Gentry.

County students who recently received a high school diploma and a uniform certificate and/or diploma of general studies at Mountain Gateway Community College and Virginia Western Community College. A diploma from Virginia community colleges is a two-year curriculum in which a student must complete a minimum of 60 college credits. The uniform certificate of general studies is a one-year college program in which all courses are transferable and satisfy general education requirements at any Virginia public institution of higher education. Students who complete 30 credit hours of course work receive uniform certificate of general studies.

The board recognized James River students Maddox Potter for earning Associate of Arts and Sciences and Uniform Certificate of General Studies and Macy Williams for earning a uniform certificate of general studies from Mountain Gateway. Potter graduated from James River this year with a high school diploma and an associate’s degree from MGCC. Lord Botetourt student Griffin Davidson was also recognized for receiving his uniform certificate of general studies from Virginia Western.

BCPS Financial Director Brandon Lee presented the latest draft of the ESSER III spending plan. In the plan, a little over \$3 million is being spent on the Summer Academy, school bus replacement, and mental support, among others. All funds must be spent by September 30, 2024. Lee explained “the dollars are being put to use.” When asked by Board member



Lord Botetourt graduate Griffin Davidson and Blue Ridge District board member Matt East.



James River graduate Maddox Potter and Buchanan District board member Jenny Wilson.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BCPS

James River High School Principal Lisa Taylor, graduate Macy Williams, and Jenny Wilson

Tim Davidick about recent actions by congress to “claw back” COVID money effecting ESSER funds, Lee said that they haven’t been given any notification that will happen. No citizens comment during the public comment period.

To watch this month’s meeting in its entirety, please visit bcps.live/archives.

Deadline for candidate filing for November ballot is June 20

The deadline for any candidate to file for the November ballot is Tuesday, June 20, at 7:00 p.m. There is currently one candidate for Troutville Town Council (three seats open) and one for Buchanan Town Council (two seats open). No candidate has filed for school board in the Valley District. For more info, please visit https://www.elections.virginia.gov/media/candidatesandpacs/2023-candidate-bulletins/2023-11-07_Gen_Bulletin_Local_Offices.pdf or by calling the Botetourt County Registrar’s Office at 540-928-2120.

For more info, please visit https://www.elections.virginia.gov/media/candidatesandpacs/2023-candidate-bulletins/2023-11-07_Gen_Bulletin_Local_Offices.pdf or by calling the Botetourt County Registrar’s Office at 540-928-2120.

- Fincastle Herald staff report

ARRESTS

The Botetourt County Sheriff’s Office reported the following arrests for June 5-June 11:

- Amanda G. Underwood, 36, of Salem, driving on revoked license, June 5
- Amanda G. Underwood, 36, of Salem, drunk in public, June 6
- Diego Privette-Galarza, 20, of Roanoke, reckless driving, eluding law enforcement, June 6
- Xueming Sun, 59, of Daleville, sexual battery, prostitution, June 7
- Nadia L. Cook, 24, of Roanoke, driving under the influence, June 9
- Ashley N. Johnson, 34, of Roanoke, drunk in public, June 10
- Frederick E. Craft, 20, of Eagle Rock, drunk in public, June 11

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389-9355

In honor of
4th of July

OUR NEWSPAPER
offices will be closed on
Tuesday, July 4th, 2023
And will reopen on
Wed., July 5th
@ 8:30 a.m.

All ads for July 5th and
July 6th papers need to
be in our office by
Friday, June 30
at 12:00 Noon.

Ribbon-cutting celebration for new senior fitness equipment



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT CO. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Botetourt Chamber of Commerce will host a ribbon cutting celebration for the senior fitness equipment dedication at the Troutville Town Park on Monday, June 19 at 11 a.m. All are welcome to attend.

This state-of-the-art outdoor equipment project was the dream of Dean Paderick and Harry (Skeets) Ulrich when one day they came together and decided that fitness equipment aimed specifically at senior citizens should be placed in the Town Park.

While researching the project, they visited Gypsy Hill Park in Staunton, which was the only one in the area that featured senior fitness equipment.

To make their dream a reality, they fundraised, applied for various grants, managed fund appeal letters, and searched for private donations. There was a lot of help from different organizations in and around Troutville that helped them reach their goal, including Glenda F. Terry, Bank of Botetourt, First Bank, Botetourt

Kiwanis Club, and APX Traffic Management.

Unfortunately, during this fundraising campaign, Dean Paderick was battling cancer, and sadly in June of 2022, he lost his fight. Skeets took the project over and with the help from many friends and family, their dream became a reality.

On May 20, 2023, a benefit ride was held at the Troutville Town Park in Dean's honor. All the funds raised will cover the remaining balance on the

installation of the equipment. Dean will be remembered at the ribbon cutting and his contributions to the project will continue to be enjoyed in the community by those who visit the park. The equipment and track surrounding it not only encourages a better quality of life, but it also offers a gathering area for seniors in the community to socialize.

- Botetourt County Chamber of Commerce

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Andrews graduates from Northfield Mount Hermon

Jerrel Andrews of Fincastle was among 219 students who graduated from Northfield Mount Hermon in Massachusetts on May 21.

JMU announces spring 2023 graduates

James Madison University has announced the following local students who graduated during the May 2023 commencement exercises.

Kasey Trapuzzano of Blue Ridge graduated with a degree in Media Arts and Design - BA.

Adelyn Holley of Cloverdale graduated with a degree in Kinesiology - BS.

Thomas Adams of Fincastle graduated with a degree in Sport and Recreation

Management - BS.

Michael Nichols of Roanoke graduated with a degree in Business Administration - MBA.

Rane Garmon of Roanoke graduated with a degree in Business Management - BBA.

Katharine Williams of Roanoke graduated with a degree in Communication Studies - BS.

Bradley Woodcock of Roanoke graduated with a degree in Computer Science - BS.

Michael Steinbach of Roanoke graduated with a degree in General Psychology - BA.

Jose Gonzalez of Roanoke graduated with a degree in International Affairs - BA.

Emilee Rigsby of Roanoke graduated with a degree in Biology - BS.

Jada Allen of Roanoke graduated with a degree in Biology - BS.

Zenobia Lee Nelson of Roanoke

graduated with a degree in Counselor Education - MED.

Rae Martz of Roanoke graduated with a degree in Counselor Education - MED and School Psychology and Counselor Education - EdS.

Leah Williamson of Roanoke graduated with a degree in Dietetics - BS.

Karlee Kirtley of Troutville graduated with a degree in Biology - BS.

Liam McCaul of Troutville graduated with a degree in Marketing - BBA.

JMU local honor graduates

James Madison University has announced the following local students who graduated with honors during the May 2023 commencement exercises.

Deaquan Nichols of Roanoke graduated Cum Laude with a degree in Independent Scholars - BS.

Daniel Francis of Roanoke graduated Cum Laude with a degree in Kinesiology - BS.

MacKenzie Blake of Troutville graduated Magna Cum Laude with a degree in Elementary Education - BS.

Olivia Beirne of Roanoke graduated Magna Cum Laude with a degree in Kinesiology - BS.

Haley Gillespie of Roanoke graduated Summa Cum Laude with a degree in Graphic Design - BFA.

Lee grandchildren receive degrees

Madison L. Lee recently received a BS degree from The University of Virginia, and Jacob C. Poland received a BS degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Dayton Beach, Fla.

They are grandchildren of Larry L. Lee, formerly of Botetourt County.

AARP Fraud Alert: Help stop elder financial abuse

More than 369,000 incidents of financial abuse targeting older adults are reported to authorities in the U.S. each year, causing an estimated \$4.8 billion in losses. And those numbers likely understate the problem considerably. However, as we approach World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15, it's good to remember that there are things we can do to stop elder financial exploitation.

Encourage your loved one to designate someone they trust to help them with financial decisions. The federal government's Eldercare Locator can help you find free or low-cost legal assistance. Suggest they add a trusted contact for their financial institutions if they are unreachable or if questionable activity is detected. A trusted

contact is not able to make transactions, but the financial institution can disclose some account information to them.

Also, watch out for someone — even someone you thought you or your loved one could trust — who discourages contact with family and friends, exerts pressure on financial decisions or asks for large sums of money.

Most importantly, financial exploitation

is a crime and should be reported to the local police or sheriff or even to 911.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

Visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork or call the AARP Fraud Watch Helpline at 1-877-908-3360.

- AARP

AFFORDABLE MINI STORAGE, LLC

1250 Lee Highway, Roanoke, VA 24019

Date: Saturday, June 17, 2023

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Units: A01, F04, F15, H02, D11
Cash only. Buyer has 24 hours to remove items from unit.

Cody Manspile, Auctioneer,
VAL# 2907004430

Treasury's Unclaimed Property Program Returns Millions to Citizens Each Year!

Look for the 2022 list of unclaimed properties in next week's newspaper.

What is Unclaimed Property?

Inactive or dormant bank accounts, uncashed checks, customer refunds, safe deposit box contents, securities, dividends, insurance policy proceeds, etc.

This is a FREE Public Service, No Fees!

Search our free website for the entire list of unclaimed properties and start your claim today!



Facilitated by Virginia Department of the Treasury



Upcoming Library Events

Libraries Closed for Juneteenth

All library branches will be closed for the Juneteenth weekend – Sat., June 17 – Mon., June 19.

The Bubble Brigade

Tue, June 20, 10:30-11:30am, Eagle Rock Library

Tue, June 20, 3-4pm, Fincastle Library

Wed, June 21, 10:30-11:30am, Buchanan Town Park

Wed, June 21, 3-4pm, Blue Ridge Library

Join us for a fun time filled with music, interaction, bubbles, and LOTS of foam. Dress for mess! Great for kids of all ages.

StoryTime

Weekly, 10:30-11am

Tuesdays - Blue Ridge Library

Wednesdays - Eagle Rock Library

Thursdays - Fincastle Library

Fridays - Buchanan Library

Improve literacy, motor skills, and school readiness through books, songs, and tactile activities. Activities follow our summer theme of space and time. Recommended for preschoolers.

Flat Earths and Blind Spots

Thu, June 15, 6-7pm, Eagle Rock Library

As societal divides deepen, it's easy to shout down "crazy" ideas (and there's no shortage). But what can strangers teach us about our own blind spots? Do we truly think for ourselves? Join author and astronomer Josh Urban for an evening of sharpening up! Recommended for adults and teens 14+.

Art: Space Rocks

Thu, June 15, 2:30-3:30pm,

Fincastle Library

Thu, June 15, 3-4pm, Blue Ridge Library

Fri, June 16, 2:30-3:30pm, Buchanan and Eagle Rock Libraries

Paint rocks with a space-inspired theme and leave your rock somewhere in town for others to discover. Great for kids of all ages.

Movie: Hidden Figures (PG)

Wed, June 14, 11am, Blue Ridge Library

Thu, June 15, 11am, Buchanan Library

Fri, June 16, 11am, Fincastle Library

Tue, June 20, 11am, Eagle Rock Library

A team of female African-American mathematicians served a vital role in NASA during the early years of the U.S. space program.

Used Book Sale - Buchanan

Find your next best read at this short book sale sponsored by the Buchanan Friends of the Library. \$2 per bag. Located in the Carson Building across from the Buchanan Fire Station on Main Street.

Summer Learning Challenge

Through Aug. 5

How would you like to win an all-expenses-paid trip for 4 to the Air & Space Museum in D.C., or one of many other exciting incentives? "Find Your Place in Time and Space" with a reading challenge, activities and events all summer long! Pick up your events calendar at any library location and get ready to launch into summer!

See our calendar at BOCOLibraries.info for more great events.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter of support for Scothorn

Dear Voter of the Valley District,
In a few days (June 20) you will vote to select a nominee for the Board of Supervisors in the November election.

Mac Scothorn is the incumbent supervisor, so it is fair to judge him by his record. Those policies enacted by the board have a direct impact on the quality of life here in Botetourt County; fiscal practices determine tax rates.

Consider our collective experience in the following categories:

- Median value of owner-occupied dwelling - \$225,000
- Unemployment rate - 3%

(statewide...3%)

- Per capita income - \$49,948 (up 11% since 2016)
- New business starts - 4.2% increase (regionally...2.16%)

- Real estate values - increased by 14% (driven largely by property demand)

- Moody's bond rating - Aa1
- Mac did not create these impressive economic data points alone, but he has been a diligent, dedicated board member – a team player, known for his high ethical and moral standards.

Let's keep a good thing going. Vote for Mac Scothorn on June 20.

*John Alderson
Daleville*

Donations needed for Fincastle fireworks

There is less than a month before the Fourth of July fireworks display at Breckinridge Elementary School in Fincastle will be held.

The fireworks display will cost \$7,000 this year because we had to hire a professional fireworks company. We will be using the same company, Master Display, as we had last year. Donations will be needed. We appreciate all who

donated to the wonderful event in the past.

Donations can be brought to the Fincastle Town Office or sent to Town of Fincastle , P.O. Box 250, Fincastle, 24090. You also can call the Town Office at 540-473-2200 to use your debit or credi card to make a donation.

Our Fourth of July fireworks display has been enjoyed by many people in Botetourt and

other counties. Let your friends, co-workers, and families know about the Fincastle Fourth of July fireworks display. Come and have an enjoyable time together with family and friends.

Let's make the 2023 Fincastle Fourth of July fireworks display the best show of the year.

*Paige Ware
Fourth of July Fireworks Committee*

Student participation in school fundraising should be voluntary

In Virginia, parents have fundamental rights concerning the education and upbringing of their children (§ 1-240.1). Concurrently, participation in in-school fundraising may not be solely by student choice.

During the budgetary processes, public education funding is debated with the needs of other recipients of federal, state, and local funds. Since FY 2008-09, state direct aid per Botetourt County Public

Schools (BCPS) pupil has decreased by almost 12%. This year, BCPS will receive approximately 34% of the Botetourt County budget and a resolution was adopted about funding the BCPS Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). In addition to public funds, many public schools receive support from businesses, corporations, foundations, and non-profit groups. Likely intended to supplement, this support supplants when public funding is inadequate.

A significant portion of public school capital improvements in Virginia have been funded through school fundraising campaigns. Schools have benefitted immeasurably from the generosity of donors and volunteers. Participation in school fundraising should be voluntary. When fundraising occurs outside of school and/or working hours, student and staff participation is voluntary: one acts of his or her own accord to participate.

When fundraising occurs during school and/or working hours, the definition of voluntary participation becomes debatable. Virginia public policy allows for

voluntary participation to be defined as a student having the condition upon enrollment of "participant" in fundraising who may change his or her condition to "non-participant" without punitive consequences. Voluntary student participation should be defined by student or parental consent.

Students should have the condition upon enrollment of "non-participant" in fundraising, changeable to "participant" by choice of the student or parent. To preserve existing parental rights and ensure that student participation in in-school fundraising is voluntary, parental consent should be required.

From the Virginia Department of Education, "When schools partner with parents, and actively seek their involvement, students are more likely to experience improved outcomes." Requiring parental consent for student participation in in-school fundraising would demonstrate effective partnership between schools and parents. Adequate public funding is also essential to student success.

See **Letters**, page 13

League for Animal Protection's Waif of the Week

Meet Cash

Cash is about 28 pounds, neutered, has all vaccines and heartworm negative. He loves riding in a car and being with gentle children. Other dogs are fine if they are not too large. He entered the shelter on June 6 from Pittsylvania County.



The shelter is open from 8-11 and 3-5; 540-473-3853. Send donations to LAP, P.O. Box 561, Fincastle, 24090.

Subscribe!
389-9355

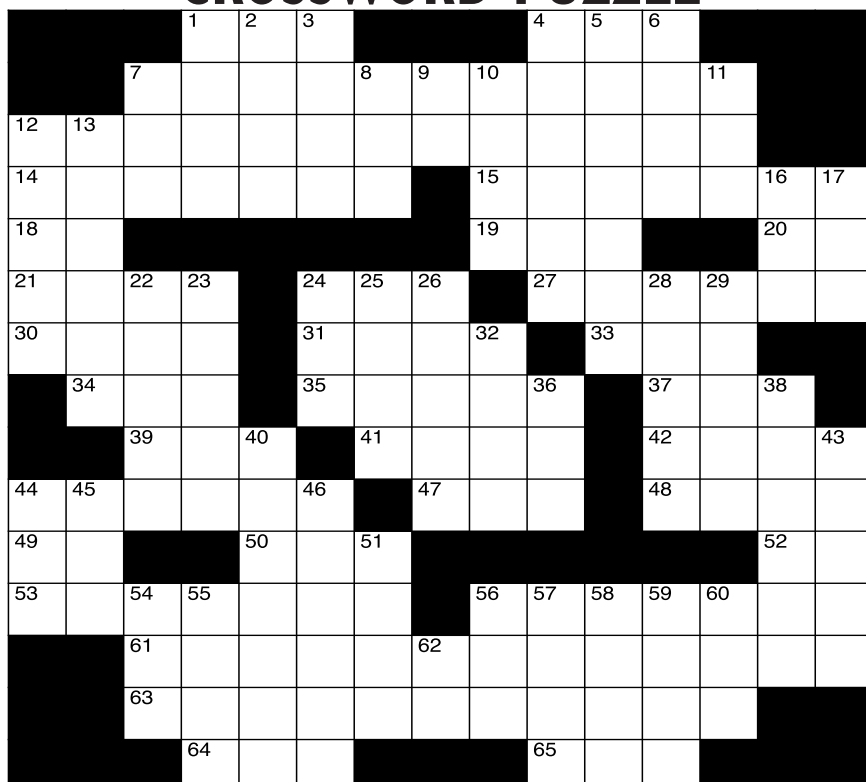
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Formed by burning tobacco
4. Luxury automaker
7. Religious residences
12. Crusaders
14. Puzzled
15. In a curt way
18. Selling tool
19. Solid material
20. Gold
21. Thick piece of something
24. Pouch
27. "Wonder Years" actor Fred
30. Strong and healthy
31. Waste matter
33. Apply lightly
34. Type of squad
35. Secret political faction

37. Mock
39. Immoral act
41. Early Syrian kingdom
42. Neutralizes alkalis
44. Loud, confused noise
47. Sweet potato
48. Yemen's largest city
49. Farm state
50. Bird's beak
52. Measures distance
53. Pacify
56. Spanish noble
61. Lodging supplied for public convenience
63. Womanized
64. Not divisible by two
65. Monetary unit

- #### CLUES DOWN
1. Used in perfumery
 2. Arabic man's name

3. Assess
4. Prickly plants
5. Falsely assess
6. "___ the whistle"
7. Mama
8. Rocker ___ Vicious
9. Toward
10. Prefix meaning within
11. Midway between south and southeast
12. Cause to be embarrassed
13. Pandemonium
16. Fall behind
17. Cantonese
22. Shad
23. A way to make dark
24. Specialized systems consultant
25. Wings
26. Taxi driver

28. Linear units
29. Large Philippine plant
32. Celebration
36. Fugitives are on this
38. Chinese tree
40. Not sour
43. "Bourne" actor Matt
44. Former OSS
45. Runners run this
46. Offered again
51. Sanctuary
54. Food suitable for babies
55. Caused by a reflection of sound
56. Mortar trough
57. Days in mid-month
58. Exhibit the courage to do
59. Disk of the sun in Egyptian mythology
60. Protects from weather
62. Manganese

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On The Web At www.fincastleherald.com

**Buchanan Theatre**
Main Street, Buchanan
\$6 Adults
\$3 Children under 12
254-1155
www.buchanantheatre.com
Visit our website for list of movies and live entertainment

Guardians of the Galaxy - Volume 3
Thursday, June 15
7 p.m.

The Little Mermaid

(2023) A young mermaid makes a deal with a sea witch to trade her beautiful voice for human legs so she can discover the world above water and impress a prince.

Fri., Sat.
June 16 & 17
7 p.m.
Sun., June 18
3 p.m.
Thurs., June 22
7 p.m.

Coming Next:
Book Club 2

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See **Answers**, page 13

Botetourt Chamber holds meeting of membership

The Botetourt Chamber of Commerce held its "Meeting of the Membership" at Virginia Mountain Vineyards on June 6. During this event, Chamber Executive Director Khari Ryder thanked and bid farewell to outgoing directors Emily Bailey, Lois James, Kathy Caldwell, and Julie Phillips.

The chamber welcomed the new slate of directors and the new president, David Williams of Radar Funeral Home, who shared his thoughts on the chamber's

theme for Botetourt's "vision." Outgoing president Anna Muncy of Lawrence Companies shared kind words about the direction of the chamber.

The new chamber directors are Dustin Bays of Bank of Botetourt, Cheryl Sullivan-Willis of PZAZ Salon, Shana Linthicum of Virginia 811, Maiya Ashby of Craig-Botetourt Cooperative, and Richard Bennett of Blue Ridge PBS.

~ Botetourt Chamber of Commerce



Front row, left to right: Brittany Bostic (Member One), Emily Bailey (Old Republic Title), Anna Muncy (Lawrence Moving), Lindsey Layman (Titan America/Roanoke Cement), Khari, David Williams (Rader Funeral Home). Back row: Dustin Bays (Bank of Botetourt), Mike Rakes (Spectrum Design), William Nelms (Spectrum Media Solutions), Forest Wagner (F.A. Wagner Insurance), Luke Campbell (Botetourt County Economic Development), Richard Bennett (Blue Ridge PBS), Sandra Craft (First Bank).



The Botetourt Chamber revealed the cover of the latest edition of "Botetourt Living" magazine.



A vision board was made available for guests to share their own "vision" for Botetourt.



Outgoing chamber directors Julie Phillips, Emily Bailey, Executive Director Khari Ryder, and outgoing President Anna Muncy



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
The Botetourt Chamber held their annual "Meeting of the Membership" at Virginia Mountain Vineyards on June 6.

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ANGLICAN
Orchard Hills Church - 6032 Cloverdale Rd. next to Read Mountain Fire Station. Worship at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays. Home group Bible studies available throughout the week. Pastor Scott McLucas, 977-6800. To find out more about Orchard Hills Church go to the website at www.orchardhillchurch.org.

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
New Beginnings Assembly of God, 1317 Narrow Passage Rd., 43 North. Sunday School, 10:00a.m.; Worship, 11a.m.; Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study, 6:00p.m., Pastor Steve Tremblay, email: pastorstevetremblay@gmail.com. Everyone welcome.

Troutville Assembly of God, 118 Conner Lane, P.O. Box 728, Troutville, VA 24175, Pastor Dennis Carroll, 540-960-1224, Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church 11:00 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Everyone welcome.

CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY

Botetourt Church of God of Prophecy - (formerly Flatwoods COGOP & Fincastle COGOP), Roanoke & Academy Streets, Fincastle, Va 24090, Sunday School 10:00 AM, Worship 11:00 AM, Sun. Evening 6:30 PM, Wed. Evening 7:00 PM, Pastor Peggy Brown, 540-992-3696.

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST

Colonial Baptist Church - 221 Hillcrest St., Blue Ridge, VA 24064. Phone 540-977-5683. Senior Pastor Joel A. Wegner; Sunday: 9:30 a.m., Sunday School & Adult Bible Fellowships; 10:30 a.m. Worship (Nursery, Tots' & Children's Church) - broadcast on Facebook Live; One Sunday evening worship per month at 6 p.m. Wednesday schedule during the school year: 11 a.m. & 7 p.m. Adult Prayer & Bible Studies; 6:45 p.m. WOL Teens, 7 p.m. WOL Gopher Buddies & Olympians (Age 3-Grade 6), 7 p.m. MERGE (College Age). E-mail: office@cbcblueridge.org; website: www.cbcblueridge.org; On Facebook, Instagram, YouTube
Crossroads Baptist Church - 1128 Wheatland Rd., Buchanan, Pastor Elmer Clemons, 761-5074 Home, Sunday School 10:00 A.M., Morning Worship, 11:00 A.M., Sunday Evening 6:00 P.M., Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 6:00 P.M.

Faith Baptist Church- 4258 Botetourt Rd., 4 miles N. of Fincastle; Dr. John W. Reynolds, pastor- teacher, 473-2325, jwr56fbc@yahoo.com. Sunday School, 10 AM; Worship, 11 AM. Wed. Bible study, 7 PM. fincastlefaith.com.

Lapsleys Run Baptist Church- Rev. David W. Halsey, Sr., Pastor. 608 Zion Hill Road, Fincastle. 540-556-3504. Worship: 2nd & 4th Sundays at 11:00a.m.

New Hope Baptist Church- 2315 Blue Ridge Blvd. (US 460), 977-6610, Pastor David McNeill; Sunday School, 9:45AM; Worship, 10:45AM, 7PM; Wed., Bible Study 7PM; Kings Kids, 7PM; Daycare and Preschool, Mon-Fri. 6:30AM-6PM.

Valley View Baptist Church- 17471 Main St., Buchanan; Rev. Daniel Boone, 254-2760 (church), 254-2570 (H). Sunday School, 10 AM; worship, 11 AM, Sunday Evening, 6:30 PM; Wednesday: Prayer and Youth Ministries, 7 PM, Word Of Life youth ministry for 4 year olds- 12th grade Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST
Bonsack Baptist Church - 4845 Cloverdale Rd. (Alt. 220) Dr. Chris Cadenhead, 977-5701, Sunday School, 8:30a.m. and 11a.m.; Worship 9:45a.m.; Wed. Bible study, 6 p.m.

Buchanan Baptist Church - 19730 Main Street, Buchanan, Sunday Bible Study for all ages 9:45 a.m.; Worship at 11 a.m. Wednesday Fellowship Meal at 6 p.m. followed by

Bible Study and activities for all ages. Facebook - Buchanan Baptist Church; Web Site - buchananbaptist.com; Phone - 254-2253, Pastor - Darrell Naff; Minister of Music - Stephen Harris

Cave Rock Baptist Church - 2233 Stoney Battery Road, Troutville. Pastor Mark Childers, 540-765-8855. Sunday School 10 a.m., Worship Service 11 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Daleville Baptist Church- Corner of Valley Rd. and Orchard Dr., 992-1570; Senior Pastor Wes Belcher; Sunday School 9:00 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday: Youth 6:30 p.m., Children (age 4-5th grade) 6:45 p.m., Bible study & prayer 7:00 p.m.

Fincastle Baptist Church- Located at 7330 Roanoke Rd., Fincastle, Rt. 220, 1 mile south of Fincastle, 540-473-2861; www.fincastlebaptist.org; Sr. Pastor Kevin B. Cummings. Sunday Mornings, we offer a dual Bible Study/Worship Service at both 9:00 am and 10:45 am. On Wednesday evenings, we offer events for the entire family: Kids Club (3 years-5th grade) 6:15-7:30 pm; Middle School Ignite (Grades 6-8) 6:15-7:15 pm; Adult Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm; Ignite High School Group (Grades 9-12) 7:45-8:45 pm; and childcare (birth-36 months).

Forest Grove Baptist Church- 693 Mt. Moriah Rd. (Rt. 681), Eagle Rock, Rev. Jerry Marsh, Pastor. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:35 a.m., Wed., Bible Study 7 p.m.

Glade Creek Baptist Church - 3148 Webster Road, Blue Ridge, Virginia 24064. Pastor Steve McChesney. Phone 540-977-1686 or 540-798-7462. Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday Worship Service 11:00 a.m., to include Chidren's Church. Wednesday evening Worship and Bible study begins with a meal at 6:30 p.m.

Mill Creek Baptist Church -11475 Lee Hwy., Fincastle, 992-3474. Danny Quirin, Pastor. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday night activities begin at 6pm: Bible study, children and youth activities, choir and handbell rehearsals follow. office@millcreekbc.com

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church - 4930 Country Club Road (corner of Country Club & Haymakertown Roads), 540-992-5556. Pastor Danny Barham. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. Worship can also be viewed online at the PHBC Facebook page or on Youtube (PHBCtube). Other activities and schedules can be found at www.phbcweb.com.

Springwood Baptist Church - 88 Cops Hill Rd., Buchanan; Rev. Mike Anderson, 540-819-4616, Email pmike09@outlook.com. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship 11 a.m.: Wednesday night bible study will be held every first and third Wednesday of the month from 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Troutville Baptist Church -P.O. Box 309, Troutville, VA 24175; 992-1026, Pastor Dr. Jeff Ritchey. Sunday School 9:45 AM; Worship 11 AM. Wednesday: Adult Prayer & Bible Study, 6:30PM; Youth & Children Activities 6:30PM.

Zion Hill Baptist Church- Intersection of Zion Hill Road and Old Fincastle Road. Pastor Donald Goforth (540) 884-2285. Sunday School -10 AM Worship 11AM. Youth Activities (grades 6-12) and Kingdom Kids (preschool-grade 5) Wednesdays at 5:30 PM.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Cloverdale Church of the Brethren- 4708 Read Mtn. Rd., 992-1060; Sunday School, 9:15 a.m., worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wed. (Sept.-May), Family Dinner, 6 p.m., Bible study, 6:45 p.m. Preschool, after-school care & summer day camp for preschool and elementary age children. Patrick Starkey, Pastor; Shawna

Family Trees

Read 1 Chronicles 1:1 through 5:26

Erin and her mother spent months researching their family tree. The search led them to relatives in Ireland who helped them gather names and stories of deceased family members from the 1600s. They were thrilled to learn their family history.

The writer of Chronicles begins with a record of Adam's family tree through his son Seth.

Adam, Seth, Enosh, Kenan, Mahalalel, Jared, Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, Noah. The sons of Noah: Shem, Ham and Japheth (1 Chronicles 1:1-4).

The chronicle goes on to include historical events and establishes a continuous lineage of God's chosen people, to whom He made specific promises.

The Book of Revelation tells of a book, the Lamb's Book of Life, which contains another family tree. In it, God records the names of all His children—those who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. If you are a child of God, your name is in the Lamb's book, and the Bible is a history of your spiritual family tree. Read about your predecessors. Get to know them. You will spend eternity together.

Challenge for Today: Experience the joy of discovering your spiritual heritage.

Quicklook: 1 Chronicles 1:1-28

Burkhart, preschool director.

Mt. Bethel Church of the Brethren- 10603 Narrow Passage Rd., Eagle Rock. PO Box. 183 Eagle Rock, VA 24085. Interim Pastor Dreama Osborne. 884-2292 (church), 540-597-8272 (cell). Sunday School, 10 AM; worship, 11 AM; Ladies' Aid meets 2nd Thurs. monthly.

Mt. Joy Church of the Brethren- 2565 Buffalo Rd., 10 miles N of Buchanan, 254-2298. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m. Pastor Michael Tabor, (540) 309-7595.

Pleasant Dale Church of the Brethren, 3732 Breckinridge Mill Road, Fincastle Virginia 24090, Pastor Dr. David A. Tozar, Worship service 11:00am every Sunday, Potluck Luncheon every 3rd Sunday of the month.

Troutville Church of the Brethren - 5133 Lee Hwy., 992-1571; Terry R. Johnson, Pastor; Don Obenshain, Choir Director. Sunday Morning Services: Sunday School, 10 am; Worship Service, 11 am. Sunday Night Meetings: Rainbows, 5:30 pm; Christ Seekers, 6:00 pm. Wednesday Night Meetings: Bible Study, 6:30 pm, Choir practice, 7:00 pm. Family Fellowship Time will be held each 3rd Sunday of the month. Handicap Accessible. Our email address is: Troutvillecob@hotmail.com.

CHURCH OF CHRIST


Dale Ridge Church of Christ - 7165 Cloverdale Rd., Roanoke, 24019; beside the Botetourt Athletic Club. Leave message 992-4385. Sunday Bible Study, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study, 6 p.m. Please come visit us in person or get to know about us first by visiting our web page: daleridgechurchofchrist.net. Updated each week with a new sermon by Mike Mazzalongo, four minutes of video showing our nearly six acres of land and our beautiful, functional inside facilities, articles, events, news from Christian sources around the world and here locally plus much, much more. See how many ways Dale Ridge is "Reaching Out There" to the Roanoke Valley with the "Good News of Jesus. By clicking on

"visit us virtually" real time access to our Worship services is available via your computer, a tablet or smartphone: Just follow the instructions. We believe in the inspired Word of God which is as relevant today as it was when it was written. We believe the Holy Spirit is a gift to every Christian upon their response to the Gospel as demonstrated by the 3000 obedient souls in (Acts 2:38). We believe Jesus is the only author of our salvation. (Acts 4:12) Have you been looking for a church family that is progressive, outside the box thinkers, led by the Holy Spirit into all truth. (John 16:13). You will know we are His disciples by our love for one another. (John 13:35) Real time contact thru our website via email.

ECKANKAR

Eckankar, the Path of Spiritual Freedom, is a simple teaching that focuses on the Light and Sound of God to help people find more love in their life. The Roanoke Eckankar Center is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. A spiritual event is held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. Since contracting COVID-19 may still be possible, please take the health steps that are best for you. It is appreciated that by attending you are taking responsibility for your own health. Visit www.eck-va.org, www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences * Group* or call 540-353-5365 for other Eckankar programs and for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar can lead you to spiritual freedom.

EPISCOPAL

 **St. Mark's Episcopal Church** -111 S. Roanoke St., Fincastle. P.O. Box 277 Fincastle, VA 24090. The Rev. G. Willis Logan, Rector. 473-2370. Worship in the sanctuary and by Zoom on Sunday mornings at 10:00am, with Adult Education on Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 9:50am. Evening Prayer is Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm by Zoom. Brown Bag Bible Study on Thursdays at 12 noon in the Ministry Center and by Zoom. Links for Zoom can be found on our website, www.stmarksfincastle.org.

LUTHERAN

Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS) - 9068 Cloverdale Road, Troutville, VA; Paul Workentine, Pastor; Worship Sunday at 10:00 AM. Sunday School at 11:30 AM. Info and calendar at osloanoke.com. Phone: 540-977- 4888. Mailing address PO Box 916, Blue Ridge, VA 24064.

Wheatland Evangelical Lutheran Church- 1560 Wheatland Road, Buchanan, 24066; 540-254-1605. Sunday worship service, 10:30 a.m. (in person or parking lot, tune car radio to 88.9 FM). The Rev. Chuck Miller, 540-589-7553. Facebook, <http://www.wheatlandlutheran.org>; teemwheatland@gmail.com

NON-

DENOMINATIONAL

Grace Bible Church of Botetourt - 148 Amsterdam Rd. (beside the south lane of 220 in Amsterdam, 1.5 miles north of LBHS). Sunday Worship, 10 a.m. Pastor Jay Robinette - 855-4620.

Mt. Carmel Church, 6 miles south of Eagle Rock at intersection of Rt. 43 and 688; pastor, Richard Ronk; phone # (540) 884-3653; Sunday School at 10:00 A.M., Worship at 11:00 A.M., Wed. Prayer Meeting at 7:00 P.M., 4th Sunday Evenings at 7:00 P.M.

Woodland Church-A Place Where You Can Grow - 45 Woodland Rd. Troutville, VA. Corner of Blacksburg/Country Club Rds., 3.5 miles W. of Fincastle; 992-1008. Sunday School, 10AM; Worship, 11AM, Wed. Prayer Meeting 7PM (Call for more information).

PRESBYTERIAN

Buchanan Presbyterian Church - 19559 Main St. Buchanan. 540-254-1390.

Interim Pastor Skip Hastings. Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. with background checked approved teachers, Choir practice at 10:15 a.m. Worship at 11 a.m. with children's nursery with background checked approved staff. Videotaped services can be viewed on YouTube. The Food Pantry is open from 9-11 a.m. on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. AA meetings are held on Thursdays at 7 p.m. Handicap accessible. Facebook page or website: www.buchananpresbyterian.org. Contact www.admin@buchananpresbyterian.org
Fincastle Presbyterian Church - 108 E. Back Street, Fincastle, VA 24090. The Reverend David Dickerson is the minister with the Worship Service held from 10:30 - 11:30 Sunday mornings. Services are now being held in the sanctuary with no restrictions... unvaccinated individuals are still requested to wear their masks. The service will also be live-streamed via Facebook at (<https://www.facebook.com/fincastlepresbyterianchurch>). New members are welcome to join our hand bell and vocal choirs. (No musical experience is required...just a desire to worship the Lord and to have fun!) The church is handicapped accessible. For more information: fincastlepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com or (540)473-2042.

Galatia Evangelical Presbyterian Church - 78 Gala Loop Road, Eagle Rock, VA 24085. Rev. Emily B. Hook, pastor, 804-516-6552. Sunday School at 10 a.m. each Sunday. Morning Worship & Praise at 11a.m. each Sunday. Communion once each quarter.

Virginia Presbyterian Church - 918 Pico Road, Buchanan, 24066. Worship 9:30 a.m. (nursery provided), Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Church of the Transfiguration- 7624 Roanoke Rd., Fincastle, VA 24090; Fr. Stephen McNally. 473-2656. Saturday Mass at 4:30pm & Sunday at 8:30am; Christian formation after Mass on Sunday.

UNITED METHODIST

Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church- 3936 Beaver Dam Road, just off Springwood Road, Springwood. Rev. Morris A. Bennett. Sunday School, 9:15 a.m. followed by Worship, 10 a.m.

Eagle Rock United Methodist Church - 14565 Church St. Eagle Rock 10:15 AM; Glen Wilton UMC, Main St. Glen Wilton, 9:00 AM; Shiloh UMC, Shiloh Rd, Eagle Rock, 11:15 AM. Pastor Ray Sandifer (540) 525-0258.

Fincastle United Methodist Church - Sunday School at 9 a.m. in the Family Life Center. In person services Sunday, 10 a.m. in the sanctuary, 136 S. Church St., Fincastle. Pastor Rev. Kwang Shin, office, 473-3001. E-mail: office@fincastleumc.org.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church - 19 Cedar Ridge Drive, Daleville, Rev. Terry Clark, 992-3030. Worship Times: Praise and Worship Service at 9:00, with Blended Worship which celebrates Communion on the first Sunday of every month, with music led by our Praise Band. Traditional Worship Service at 11:00am. Traditional worship often with presence of the choir--this service is live streamed and celebrates Communion on the first Sunday. Children and Youth Ministries meet for Sunday School at 10Am each Sunday! Shipyard Youth meets every Sunday 4 to 6pm unless we are doing a special monthly mission. Frogs and Tadpoles Childrens Ministry meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month from 4 to 6pm!

Trinity United Methodist Church - 19637 Main St., Buchanan; Rev. Doug Mitchell, 254-2475 (O). Sunday School, 9:45AM, worship 10:30 AM.

OBITUARIES

Crider, Jo Ann Riley

Jo Ann Riley Crider, 76, of Troutville giving for her family and friends. Her spirit and faith will remain deeply ingrained in all who knew and loved her. On June 16, 2023, she would have celebrated her 77th birthday.

“Blessed letter memories help us to bear the cross, And soften all the bitterness of heartache and loss,

Priceless little memories are treasures without price,

And through the gateway of the heart, they lead to paradise.

We have our memories of you forever in our hearts.”

Family received friends on Tuesday, June 13, from 1 to 2 p.m. in the Chapel of Botetourt Funeral Home, Buchanan, with the service starting at 2 p.m. by Pastor Elmer Clemons. Burial followed in Mill Creek Cemetery, Fincastle.



Hicks, Henry Howard, Jr.

Henry Howard Hicks Jr., “Howard,” was an avid football fan, especially the Redskins.

In addition to his parents, Howard was preceded in death by his brother, Robert William Hicks. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Karen Mobley Hicks; son, Henry Howard “Chip” Hicks III (Anne) of Dunwoody, Ga.; daughter, Martha Louise “Marti” Hicks (Charles) Atkins of Fincastle; grandchildren, Ryan Hicks and Katie Hicks; and his sister, Mary (Fred) Helder of Elizabethtown, Pa.

A celebration of Howard’s life will be held at a later date.



Hundley, Mary Sybil Stevens

Mary Sybil Stevens Hundley, 83, Stevens; her brothers, Joseph Daniel Stevens and George Dewey Stevens II; and her husband, Billy Joe Hundley.

Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Carrie and Todd Brandt of Aberdeen, N.J.; and her granddaughters, Makenna, Zoe, and Sadie Brandt.

Funeral services were held Friday, May 19 at Rader Funeral Home, Daleville, with her son-in-law, Pastor Todd Brandt, officiating. Burial was in Mill Creek Baptist Church Cemetery. The family received friends at the funeral home 6-8 p.m. May 18.

Online condolences may be made and the service live stream may be found at www.rader-funeralhome.com/tributes/Mary-Hundley.



Jecminek, Sonja Fay

Sonja Fay Jecminek, 75, of Roanoke Anderson, Lauren (John) Brock and Andrew Sarver; and her siblings, sister, Peggy Bishop, and brother, David A. Fulcher. Also surviving are numerous, loving step-grandchildren, sisters- and brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

A celebration of Sonja’s life will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, June 16, 2023 at Oakey’s East Chapel with Pastor David Derrick officiating. Entombment will follow at Old Dominion Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 4-7 p.m. on Thursday, June 15.



Stevens, Sheri Shay

A Celebration of Life service for Sheri Shay Stevens, April 6, 1973 to December 31, 2022, will be held Saturday, June 17, at Bonsack Baptist Church. Visitation will begin at 1 p.m., with the service following at 2 p.m.

CHURCH NEWS

Buchanan Food Pantry Fill the Porch to Feed My Sheep food drive June 17

The Buchanan Presbyterian Church Food Pantry is holding a food drive Saturday, June 17.

The number of families that are served has almost doubled since last year, thus the food pantry leaders came up with the Fill the Porch to Feed My Sheep food drive. They are asking the community to support their efforts in feeding those in need in Botetourt County. Volunteers will be at the church, 19559 Main Street, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. to receive donations of non-perishable food items.

The Buchanan Presbyterian Church Food Pantry was started in 2010. It serves residents of Botetourt County, but no one is turned away. This time of year, the pantry also frequently serves Appalachian Trail through hikers.

The food pantry is open on the second and fourth Saturdays of every month from 9-11 a.m. It is staffed by volunteers from Buchanan Presbyterian Church, the Buchanan Lions Club, Buchanan Baptist Church and Daleville’s St. Mark’s United Methodist Church. For more information, call 540-354-1537.

Pleasant Hill Movie Night, Red Sox game

Pleasant Hill Baptist will host Movie Night on June 25 at 6 p.m. The movie will be “Big George Foreman.” Refreshments will be provided. Bring a comfy chair.

Pleasant Hill Baptist will be attending Faith & Family Night at the Salem Red Sox on July 14 at 7 p.m. If you are interested in attending, call the church line at (540) 992-5556. Transportation will be provided but bus seating is limited so sign up early.

Children’s Game Day in Troutville Park

Troutville Baptist Church will sponsor Children’s Game Day in Troutville Park on Saturday, June 17 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event will include games, prizes and a free hot dog lunch. All area children are invited to participate.

They also are invited to Vacation Bible School June 19-23 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Springwood Food Pantry open June 17

The Springwood Baptist Food Pantry will be open on Saturday, June 17 from

9-10:30 a.m. The pantry is located at 88 Copps Hill Road, Buchanan. This pantry is a drive through pantry, so clients may remain in their cars and volunteers will load the food for them. The pantry is open each month on the third Saturday from 9-10:30 a.m. It is a partner with Feeding America Southwest Virginia and anyone in need of food is invited.

Movie Night at PleasantDale

PleasantDale Church of the Brethren Movie Night is June 24. Beginning at 4 p.m., there will be hot dogs, chips, drinks, ice cream and other snacks in the fellowship hall downstairs. The movie “Jesus Revolution” will begin at 5 p.m. (or shortly after). This is a free event open to the public; donations greatly appreciated.

Upward Soccer begins at Colonial Baptist

Upward Soccer registrations began June 1 for the fall season at Colonial Baptist Church in Blue Ridge for boys and girls in K4-Grade 5 (must be 4 by August 1). Cost per child is \$75 and includes uniform and multiple recognition awards. With just one practice a week and one-hour Saturday games, Upward makes the most of a family’s time and money.

Upward Evaluations are July 21 and July 29 (each player must attend one). Practices begin August 21 with the first game on Sept. 9. Games are held on Saturdays in September and October. Registration Deadline is July 29. Register and pay online at: <https://registration.upward.org/UPW84229>. The link is also available on the Facebook page or website at www.cbcbblueidge.org. Colonial Baptist Church and athletic fields are located at 221 Hillcrest Street in Blue Ridge, just off Mountain Pass Rd. and Rt. 460. Call the church office at 540-977-5683 for more information.”

Mennonite Choir to sing at Fincastle Presbyterian

The Fincastle Presbyterian Church is sponsoring a performance in the church’s sanctuary by the Fincastle Mennonite Choir entitled, “You Do Not Walk Alone.” The concert will be held Sunday, June 18 at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free, but a love offering will be taken up in support of their school building program. A fellowship time with refreshments will be available in the church’s fellowship hall immediately after the performance.

DAR Chapter learns more about Revolutionary War Patriot Malcom Allen

The Botetourt County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution met in the Family Life Center of Fincastle United Methodist Church on May 20. Guest speaker Tommy Myers (pictured) presented information on his ancestor, Malcom Allen. Allen was a Revolutionary War Patriot who settled in the Eagle Rock area where he built his home and raised his family. Allen was also a leader in the community. For many years the Botetourt County DAR Chapter has paid for the upkeep of the grounds of the Allen-Carper Cemetery in Eagle Rock.

Members and guests enjoyed having Tommy Myers share his vast knowledge during his talk and afterwards he shared a myriad of photographs and documents.

As the nation is preparing to celebrate America 250, the local chapter encourages everyone to learn more about Virginia’s history during the Revolutionary time period as well as the lives, histories, sites, stories and

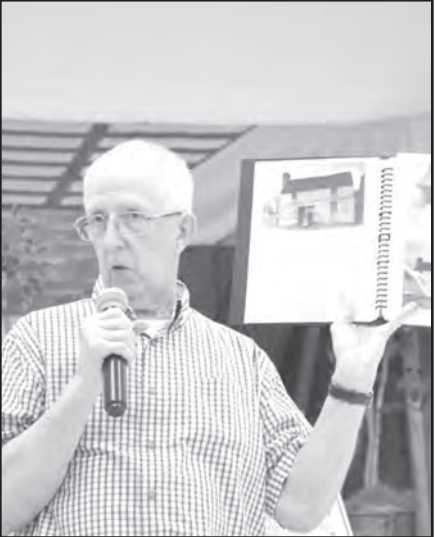


PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTETOURT DAR

communities of the citizens in the Revolutionary time period.

-Botetourt DAR

“Pets Unleashed V. B. S.”

Glade Creek Baptist Church
3148 Webster Road
Blue Ridge VA 24064
Contact phone: 540-309-0485

June 19th, 20th, 21st
from 6:30-8:30 pm

Family Night is
Wednesday, June 21st!

Serving With
Compassion



Botetourt
Funeral Home
& Crematory

Buchanan | Eagle Rock
254-3000 | 884-2276
14920 Lee | 14777 Church
Highway | Street

Karen S. Smith,
Funeral Director
Locally owned & operated
by I. Ray & Bobbi Sloan

Vacation Bible School
Cave Rock Baptist Church
Wednesday, June 21st & Thursday, June 22nd
6:30-8:15pm
Learn about God’s Love - All ages are welcome

Letters

from page 4

The BCPS CIP Resolution is a step forward in addressing the needs of public education in Botetourt County.

Emily Williams
Troutville

Opposed to proposed Craig-Botetourt Trail

A trail is being highly considered to be constructed. It is rapidly moving along, known

as the 26-mile Craig-Botetourt Trail.

We as residents along State Rt. 817 and the community of Oriskany have learned of this only lately.

Nothing apparently comes out in any news media, therefore few people are aware of it.

The trail is on the original railroad bed running from Eagle Rock

to New Castle. This trail is going through the peaceful community of historical Oriskany and State Rt. 817 – a gravel road.

I live on 817 and a good number of residents also. Without concern for our safety, etc. we will be invaded by horsemen, bicycles, and hikers. There is no cell service here, EMS and police take at

Endorses Scothorn as supervisor

If you know who I am, then you most likely know my father, Mac Scothorn.

Yes, Dr. Scothorn is my dad, but I would

like to state that I have seen my father firsthand with patients, the Botetourt community, friends, family, and even strangers.

I have seen him give each and every one of those people the utmost respect and kindness. So, even if Dr. Scothorn was not my dad and I

least 60 to 90 minutes to arrive.

It appears the multi-county supervisors, CTB and VDOT do not realize the danger to us using the trail in our vehicles.

We do not need more trails with 5,000 acres 0.9 of a mile away; plus all the many other trails in this area that are seldom used.

Our hunting will be greatly reduced, causing

loss of revenue to both counties involved and the State of Virginia.

We have reached out many ways: signs, petitions, brochures and meetings.

We need to get this out to all people!

K.R. Sellers
Eagle Rock

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS OF THE BOTETOURT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors hereby gives notice of public hearings to be held on June 27, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the agenda permits, in the Botetourt County Administration Center located at 57 South Center Drive, Daleville, Virginia, to consider the requests listed below. Information may be reviewed at the Community Development Office at 57 South Center Drive, Daleville, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Valley District: Shamus Equity Corporation LLC requests a change of proffered conditions associated with an Industrial (M-2) rezoning approved on July 28, 2015 in accordance with Section 25-47. – Conditional Zoning of the Botetourt County Code, located on Lee Hwy (US Route 11), approximately 0.10-mile northeast of its intersection with 2nd Ave. (SR 1003), identified on the Real Property Identification Maps of Botetourt County as Section 107, Parcels 126, 128, 129 & 130.

Valley District: Robert W. Jr. & Diane G. Poehner request a change of proffered conditions associated with a Business (B-1) and Industrial (M-2) rezoning approved on March 17, 1998 in accordance with Section 25-47. – Conditional Zoning of the Botetourt County Code, located at 4510 Read Mountain Rd., identified on the Real Property Identification Maps of Botetourt County as Section 107(4), Parcel 22.

Blue Ridge District: JM Industrial Properties, LLC requests a Special Exception Permit, with possible conditions, for a hospital in the Industrial (M-1) Use District in accordance with Section 25-323(9).- Uses by special exception and Section 25-583. – Special exceptions of the Botetourt County Code, located at the end of Avery Row (SR 1400), identified on the Real Property Identification Maps of Botetourt County as Section 112(3), Parcel C.

Amsterdam District: The Botetourt County Board of Supervisors has authorized consideration of a property owner-initiated petition for an amendment to the 2010 Comprehensive Plan’s Future Land Use Map #9 in accordance with Section 25-581.3 Comprehensive plan amendment-Owner initiated and Section 25-581.4 Comprehensive plan amendment and review, to amend the future land use designation from Mixed Use Highway Commercial to Industrial / Flex for a 49.9-acre parcel, located on Lee Hwy. (US Route 11), approximately 0.10 miles southwest of its intersection with Old Rt. 604 (SR 811), identified on the Real Property Identification Maps of Botetourt County as Section 101, Parcel 145.

Amsterdam District: SR Investments Inc. requests to rezone a 49.9-acre parcel from the Business (B-2) Use District to the Industrial (M-1) Use District, with possible proffered conditions, in accordance with Section 25-323.- Permitted Uses and Sec. 25-581. - Zoning map amendment—Owner-initiated., as well as a Special Exception Permit pertaining to building height in accordance with Section 25-326(d) Building Requirements and Section 25-583. – Special exceptions of the Botetourt County Code, located on Lee Hwy. (US Route 11), approximately 0.10 miles southwest of its intersection with Old Rt. 604 (SR 811), identified on the Real Property Identification Maps of Botetourt County as Section 101, Parcel 145.

Blue Ridge District: The Botetourt County Board of Supervisors has authorized consideration of a property owner-initiated petition for amendments to the 2010 Comprehensive Plan’s Sewer & Water Infrastructure Map #37 and the Future Land Use Map #9 in accordance with Chapter 25, Zoning, Division 6. Special Development Approvals, Section 25-581.3 Comprehensive plan amendment-Owner initiated and Section 25-581.4 Comprehensive plan amendment and review, to create a sewer and water service area within the right of way of Blue Ridge Blvd. between Coyner Springs Rd. and the Blue Ridge Pkwy. which would connect three existing service areas together and to amend the future land use designation of several properties in the vicinity of the intersection of Blue Ridge Blvd. (US Route 460 & 221) and Laymantown Rd. (SR 659) from medium density residential to commercial.

Blue Ridge District: Higginbotham Farms LLC, and Four H Investment LLC (Sheetz, Inc., contractual purchaser) request rezoning of two contiguous parcels totaling 3.434 acres from the Agricultural (A-1) and Industrial (M-1) Use Districts to the Business (B-2) Use District with possible proffered conditions in accordance with Section 25-242.- Permitted uses, with a Special Exception Permit for a convenience store, with possible conditions in accordance with Section. 25-243(10). – Convenience store and Section 25-583. – Special exceptions of the Botetourt County Code, located at the corner of Laymantown Rd. (SR 659) and Blue Ridge Blvd. (US Route 460 & 221), identified on the Real Property Identification Maps of Botetourt County as Section 108C(1), Parcels 1&2 and 3.

Persons wishing to make comments may attend the hearing, mail their comments to the Botetourt County Administrator’s Office, 57 South Center Drive, Daleville, VA 24083, email their comments to lbess@botetourtva.gov, or submit comments through the Citizen Comment Form on our website at www.botetourtva.gov. Comments by postal mail must be received by June 22, 2023. Website comments must be received by 9:00 a.m. on June 27, 2023.

Gary Larrowe
Botetourt County Administrator

LEGAL NOTICE FINCASTLE PLANNING COMMISSION

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 15.2- 2285 and 15.2-2204, this shall serve as notice that the Fincastle Town Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on July 13, 2023 at 6 p.m. in the Fincastle Firehouse for the purpose of soliciting public input on a proposal to create a light manufacturing classification for use in the area along Route 220 north of the intersection of 220 and North Roanoke Street, and a related amendment to the Town Comprehensive Land Use Plan. This classification shall apply to property with frontage on 220 which meets all of the specified requirements of the ordinance and shall not affect any current manufacturing uses allowed within the town.

Details of this proposal can be obtained by contacting the Fincastle Town Office during regular office hours or by contacting Scott Critzer at 540 4733377.

Scott Critzer, Chairman
Fincastle Planning Commission

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – COUNTY INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT ORDINANCE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT VIRGINIA

PUBLIC NOTICE is given to all persons in the County of Botetourt that a public hearing will be held on June 27, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. at the Botetourt County Administration Office, 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville, VA 24083, Room 212, to solicit comments on proposed intergovernmental agreement ordinance for the continued operation of the Regional Center for Animal Care and Protection (RCACP) in conjunction with the City of Roanoke and Roanoke County. Botetourt County has operated the RCACP in conjunction with the City of Roanoke and Roanoke County for many years. The obligations of Botetourt County are not intended to change. The Code of Virginia (Section 15.2-1300) requires that agreements for the joint exercise of powers by political subdivisions be approved by ordinance. The proposed ordinance and subject agreement are on file in the office of the Clerk and available for public inspection for a period of two weeks prior to this public hearing.

Persons wishing to make comments may attend the hearing, mail their comments to the Botetourt County Administrator’s Office, 57 South Center Drive, Daleville, VA 24083, email their comments to lbess@botetourtva.gov, or submit comments through the online form on our website at www.botetourtva.gov. Comments by postal mail must be received by June 22, 2023. Website comments must be received by 9:00 a.m. on June 27, 2023.

Gary Larrowe
Botetourt County Administrator

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE BOTETOURT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 33.2-331 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors jointly with representatives of the Virginia Department of Transportation will conduct a public hearing on the 2024-2029 Botetourt County Secondary System Six Year Plan. This public hearing will also consider the FY24 Secondary System budget. The public hearing is scheduled for June 27, 2023, beginning at 3:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the agenda permits, at the Botetourt County Administration Center located at 57 South Center Drive in Daleville.

All projects in the Secondary Six Year Plan that are eligible for federal funds will be included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), which documents how Virginia will obligate federal transportation funds.

Complete copies of the Six Year Plan and FY24 budget are available for inspection at the Residency Office of the Virginia Department of Transportation, 714 South Broad Street, Salem, Virginia; the Botetourt County Administrator’s Office; and in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Botetourt County Courthouse, Fincastle, Virginia, during regular business hours.

Persons wishing to make comments about the proposed Six Year Plan and budget may attend the hearing, mail their comments to the Botetourt County Administrator’s Office, 57 South Center Drive, Daleville, VA 24083, e-mail their comments to lbess@botetourtva.gov, or submit comments through the Citizen Comment Form on our website at www.botetourtva.gov. Comments by postal mail must be received until June 22, 2023 and website comments will be received until 9:00 a.m. on June 27, 2023.

Gary Larrowe
Botetourt County Administrator

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN of FINCASTLE

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2 -2204 of the Code of Virginia, the Fincastle Planning Commission and the Fincastle Town Council will hold public hearings regarding the matter referenced below.

The Planning Commission Public Hearing will be held at 6 p.m. on July 13, 2023 at the Fincastle Firehouse.

The Town Council public hearing will be held at 7 p.m on July 13, 2023 at the Fincastle Firehouse.

Pursuant to the terms of the Voluntary Boundary Adjustment agreement entered into between Botetourt County and the Town of Fincastle, the Fincastle Planning Commission has recommended to the Town Council that the Botetourt County R1, R2, R3, R4, B1 and B2 zoning classifications, in their entirety, be incorporated into the Town’s zoning ordinance, to be applied to those areas taken into the Town as part of this agreement. These additions to the zoning ordinance will not change the existing zoning on any land in the Town.

Details of these zoning classifications can be found on the Botetourt County zoning ordinance site or by contacting the Fincastle Town office during regular office hours.

Mary Bess Smith- Mayor
Town of Fincastle

Stockyard Report

Monday’s sale at the
Roanoke-Hollins Stockyard:
136 Head
Graded Feeder Steers
400-499: \$225.00
500-599: \$229.00
600-699: \$223.00
700-799: \$208.00
800-899: \$185.00
Graded Feeder Bulls
400-499: \$223.00
500-599: \$184.00
600-699: \$192.00
Graded Feeder Heifers
400-499: \$213.00
500-599: \$218.00
600-699: \$201.00
Cows: \$ 26.00-109.00
Bulls: \$ 85.00- 92.50
Cow/Calf Pairs:
\$1,625.00-1,675.00
Goats: \$115.00-410.00
Hogs: \$ 70.00- 80.00

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Born and raised on our farm**
199 Gravel Drive, Troutville, VA

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**By the piece, quarter
or whole side
(all cuts are boneless)**

**Visit for individual cuts
Ikenberry Orchards &
Country Store, Daleville**

**Individually frozen packages
Vacuum sealed**



**No Hormones, Steroids
or Antibiotics**
Website: RTSFarms.com

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE BOTETOURT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors hereby gives notice of public hearing to be held on June 27, 2023, at 3:15 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the agenda permits, in the Botetourt County Administration Center located at 57 South Center Drive, Daleville, Virginia, to consider the requests listed below. Information may be reviewed at the Community Development Office at 57 South Center Drive, Daleville, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Valley District: The Western Virginia Water Authority requests a commission permit, in accordance with Section 15.2-2232 of the Code of Virginia and Section 25-576. – Commission Permit (“2232 Review”) of the Botetourt County Code, for a capital improvements project involving the construction of approximately 5,000 feet of waterline within the right of way of Sanderson Dr. (SR 605) from Stonegate Dr. (SR 1295) to Read Mountain Rd. (SR 654) that will loop two existing water lines and provide more consistent water pressure/service within the existing system.

Persons wishing to make comments may attend the hearing, mail their comments to the Botetourt County Administrator’s Office, 57 South Center Drive, Daleville, VA 24083, email their comments to lbess@botetourtva.gov, or submit comments through the Citizen Comment Form on our website at www.botetourtva.gov. Comments by postal mail must be received by June 22, 2023. Website comments must be received by 9:00 a.m. on June 27, 2023.

Gary Larrowe
Botetourt County Administrator

Candidates

from page 1

County’s greatest assets?

MICHAEL: Botetourt County’s greatest asset is its people. What they want their supervisor to accomplish is to eliminate wasteful spending and reduce taxes.

SCOTHORN: Botetourt is blessed with many assets that relate to its people and places. One of the greatest of these is undoubtedly its community spirit. Our citizens are known for their friendliness, active engagement, strong sense of unity and pride.

Our natural beauty is extraordinary, with scenic landscapes including the Blue Ridge Mountains, the James River, and a network of parks, trails and outdoor activities that allow us to enjoy the beauty of our surroundings. Botetourt County also has a rich heritage spanning over 250 years. This heritage is integral to who we are today.

We can also be proud of the assets we have built and grown. We have a robust and diverse economy, with industries ranging from manufacturing, technology, and healthcare to agriculture and tourism. We are renowned for our top-rated education system, which provides a quality education as well as a variety of extracurricular activities. We are also near several esteemed colleges and universities which allow access to higher education and lifelong learning opportunities.

Perhaps our greatest asset is the quality and character of our people, who serve and support us in many ways. We have wonderful public and community servants, and our willingness to serve is evident in our thriving churches, clubs, civic groups, and volunteer associations.

YOUNG: I believe that Botetourt’s people are its greatest asset. Many Botetourt residents are second and third generation, illustrating the love they have for the area. More recent additions have often come to enjoy our beautiful mountains, waterways, fields, trees, farms, and wildlife. If we can continue to add better services while maintain reasonable tax rates, then the combination of beauty and open spaces, along with our people, will continue to make Botetourt a very desirable place to live.

MARTIN: The natural beauty in Botetourt County is unmatched with other localities and one of our greatest assets along with the following. Our schools are also one of our greatest assets in that they have won many awards and the test scores are some of the best in the region. Plus, the New Colonial School is a huge asset for the Blue Ridge Community. I had been fighting for this school since I started on the BOS.

Our citizens are also a great asset that we all recognize in our county. I am proud of our diverse economy, rich history, outdoor amenities, restaurants, Attic Productions, Buchanan Theater, Farmers Market, State of the Art Sports Complex, and many other things that draw people to Botetourt County.

How would you increase transparency in communications with county citizens?

SCOTHORN: Ensuring transparent communication with our citizens has been a priority throughout my tenure on the Botetourt BOS. I have made myself accessible, regularly providing information and resources, and establishing connections to meet citizens’ needs.

I have been a staunch supporter of developing our Botetourt County Communications Department who are consistently disseminating information across various platforms. I also have developed a personal Facebook page, as an additional conduit to share updates and to hear concerns. I am dedicated to supporting efforts that increase understanding and transparency in these processes, ensuring our residents are not just informed, but also engaged, in the civic process with accurate information.

YOUNG: Too many times, communication is one way, with rules and decisions coming down from meetings of the Supervisors. The average person may not have time to attend meetings of the Supervisors or may feel intimidated to speak in a large group. While Town Halls would certainly be a tool I will use for more direct communication between me and my constituents, if elected I would maintain an

open-door policy to include picking up the telephone and telling me how you feel about county business.

MARTIN: I think one of the ways to increase transparency is honesty, put information out to the public through media outlets, at Board meetings and Public Hearings. I talk to our citizens at every opportunity to get input and I listen to what they have to say, hear their concerns, and take action when needed. We have established a communications department that sends information our routinely to citizens in Botetourt about things going on in the County. We use social media, videos and press releases that are sent to our media partners. Tiffany Bradbury is our Director of Communications and has done an excellent job in communicating with the folks here in Botetourt and this will continue.

MICHAEL: I will hold office hours and monthly meetings with the citizens. The major concern of the citizens of Botetourt County is taxes. Therefore, my mission will be to expose wasteful spending and reduce taxes.

How would you deal with balancing the demands for increased “services” (fire, rescue, police, schools) with the need to keep taxes low?

YOUNG: Whether at the national level or the local level, there is always wasteful spending that could be cut. It is likely that a trimmer budget would already allow for improved services without having to raise taxes. As a single parent and a grandparent, I would work to redirect spending to improve much needed funding for our schools and local law enforcement. Another area that I would like to see particular emphasis on is improved volunteer Fire and Rescue. This a cornerstone, along with strong policing and improved schools, of providing a safe community for our residents and businesses.

MARTIN: This takes planning as to when to replace equipment, how often and how much use we can get out of existing equipment. All our emergency services must continue to find ways to achieve greater cost savings while not reducing services. I have encouraged single agency activities to reduce cost. In other words, we are stronger as “one” entity rather than individual units. Also, I encourage “maximizing grant opportunities” whenever possible. I also encourage setting aside funding for Capital projects and assets which would have priority. These service providers meet, assess and plan for the equipment needed. With the cost of a new Ambulance around \$500,000 and a new fire truck over one million dollars now, we must maintain our equipment and plan for the future.

The schools commit to a budget each year and discuss the needs of the schools and budget accordingly through school budget meetings and discussions with a constant eye on savings while keeping service delivery high.

MICHAEL: I am glad you asked about taxes. As noted above, taxes are the major concern of the citizens of Botetourt County, and they want the Board of Supervisors to eliminate wasteful spending and reduce taxes.

SCOTHORN: The challenge of balancing the increasing service demands with the necessity of low taxes is always at the forefront of our considerations, especially when contending with unfunded mandates from the state and federal government, wage pressures, and the rising cost of goods and services.

During my time in office, I have consistently aimed to grow the economic base to ease the tax burden on homeowners by expanding our industrial sector. By promoting growth and expansion in areas such as the Greenfield Industrial Complex, East Park and other locations that house Botetourt businesses, we have increased our industrial tax base, which in turn, lowers the tax burden on our citizens, and expands the sources of funding to increased services.

I am focused on enhancing the commercial development around the Exit 150 area to further strengthen Botetourt’s economic base, ensuring we can maintain high-quality services while keeping taxes low for our citizens and creating jobs.

How would you protect Botetourt’s rural

areas, while still allowing for development?

MARTIN: We have limited infrastructure with water and sewer which limits growth. We need to limit large water and sewer extensions which limits growth. We need to continue to review the zoning issues that come before the planning commission and the BOS carefully.

MICHAEL: I would represent the citizens rather than the developers and eliminate wasteful spending and reduce taxes.

SCOTHORN: As a member of the BOS, I have consistently championed agriculture, particularly in the northern regions of the County where utilities are scarce. The key to preserving Botetourt’s rural beauty (while supporting development) lies in our strategic growth patterns. By directing development to those areas where water and wastewater infrastructure exist, we can simultaneously spur economic growth and protect our unspoiled rural areas. I remain committed to backing agricultural initiatives that promote our cherished rural character and will continue to advocate for policies that balance growth with preservation.

YOUNG: This goes back to my answer to the first question. If we avoid becoming a Roanoke bedroom community and setting policies that cater to the big chain stores, I think we will automatically retain a rural feel. We need to get government out of the development business and eliminate government control and overreach.

How would you deal with aging school infrastructure?

MICHAEL: By eliminating wasteful spending and reducing taxes, the County should realize increased revenues. This process was demonstrated by the Trump tax cuts.

SCOTHORN: Addressing our aging school infrastructure is a pressing issue, and I firmly believe it necessitates a well-thought-out action plan by the School System. My commitment is to work to develop a funding strategy for all the County priorities that include the educational needs of Botetourt. I feel as if the first step is to encourage and assist the School System in implementing the insights that are feasible from the recent efficiency study.

Public Education encompasses the largest component of our County budget and it requires meticulous planning and consideration for significant investments like replacing schools. It is essential to approach such expenditures conservatively, examining all potential benefits and drawbacks. I feel that the new Colonial Elementary School can be used as an example for future construction projects. Above all, I will ensure that every step we take is communicated transparently to our

citizens, as you are our partners in building a brighter educational future.

YOUNG: As a grandparent of children currently in Botetourt County Schools, I believe our children and school staff need a welcoming, safe educational environment. With the overcrowding issues currently in our schools, we need to analyze other projects where money might be reallocated from, such as the Gateway Crossing project where over 100 million dollars is being spent. As we redirect funds to find new sources of funds other than increased taxes, we need to work to make our school improvements more cost effective by cutting wasteful spending in Botetourt County.

MARTIN: The infrastructure for aging schools is handled through the School Board. They continually review the needs for the schools in this County and determine what work needs to be done. The school would determine a cost for repairs or replacement and forward a request funding to the Board of Supervisors. The BOS would then carefully study the impacts of the cost and ask for input from the citizens for funding approvals. This a complicated issue that almost every county across the nation is dealing with.

What would you do to improve the exit 150 corridor at the intersection of U.S. Routes 220 and 11? Much has been said about the area where the old truck stop was located, along with the empty Berglund Outdoor Store, former restaurants (Shoney’s and Country Cookin’), Mountain View Plaza, and the old filling stations along northbound 220. How do you believe that the county could encourage property owners to make improvements in that area? What sorts of development do you think are appropriate for the vacated properties?

SCOTHORN: The Exit 150 area holds considerable potential for development and revitalization. Promising initiatives are underway, such as the imminent renovation of the old Shoney’s site. I anticipate this project will act as a catalyst, sparking further redevelopment efforts in the area, thereby enhancing its attractiveness, and spurring continued investment. Expanding opportunities for redevelopment and revitalization were the catalysts behind the Gateway Overlay Corridor, which seeks to encourage further investments in the area. These investments will create jobs, increase revenues, and help ease the tax burden on our citizens.

I would also encourage a sidewalk system from the Exit 150 Interchange/Appalachian Trail area to the YMCA at Daleville Town Center to enhance the safety of our youth

See **Primaries**, page 10

Youth Access to Botetourt County Library Materials and Parental Consent

It has come to our attention that some Botetourt County citizens are upset that children over the age of 13 have access to library materials that some would consider appropriate only for more mature audiences. The current County library system access policy has been in place for some time, and we concur that in a rapidly changing world this policy should be subject to periodic review.

In the 2023 session of the General Assembly the Virginia House of Delegates approved House Bill 1379 that would have allowed parents to restrict their child’s access to any item in the school library catalog that was considered to have “graphic sexual content” as defined in the bill. While this bill did not pass the Senate and become law, we believe it’s intent can inform local library policy considerations. This bill defined “child” as any person under the age of 18.

In consideration of these factors, we pledge to bring before the Board of Supervisors of Botetourt County a proposal to raise the age of required parental consent for access to graphic sexually explicit materials to the age of 18. If approved, this proposal would result in a policy change that would raise the age for parental consent from 13 to 18, and ultimately give the decision on access to such materials to the parents, where we believe that decision belongs.

Our joint statement this 5th day of June 2023.

Billy Martin, Supervisor Blue Ridge District
Mac Scothorn, Supervisor Valley District

***Paid for by friends of Mac Scothorn,
and Billy Martin for Supervisor***



Remember to Vote June 20th
for Board of Supervisors
from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

*Only registered voters in the Blue Ridge and Valley Districts

Valley District
Donald M. “Mac” Scothorn
Robert R. Young
Blue Ridge District
Walter G. Michael
Billy W. Martin, Sr.

Paid for by the Botetourt County Republican Committee

Council

from page 1

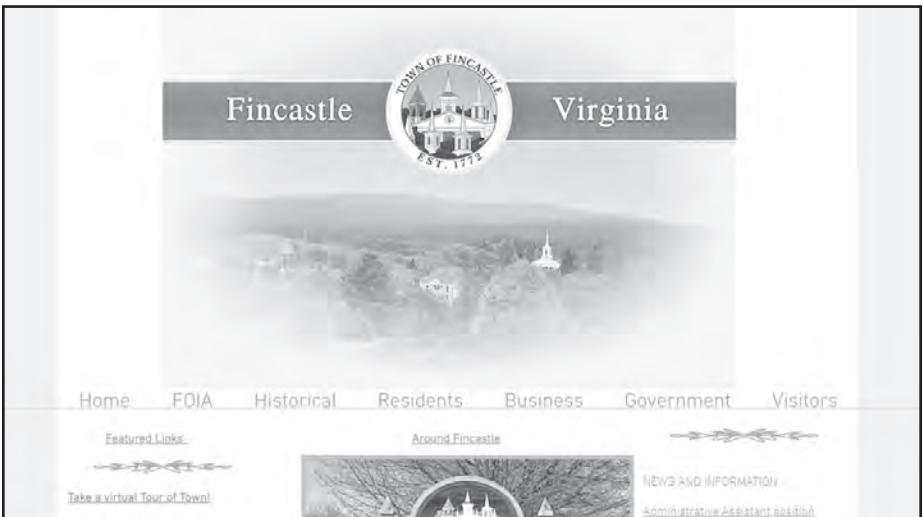


PHOTO COURTESY OF TOWN OF FINCASTLE

The current interface of the Town of Fincastle website. Town council is currently working to revamp the site to be more user-accessible.

certain zoning classifications (R-1, R-2, R-3, R-4, B-1, and B-2) into the town’s.

“Scott and the planning commission have reviewed all of this in great depth and they’ve agreed that those (classifications) are all fine... without needing to go through and look for any kind of uses or anything that’s in there that we might not want,” Smith explained.

Smith said that Critzer suggested to reach out to town attorney, Kathleen Wright, who said in an email to the town that council could “administratively vote” on the planning commission’s recommendation.

Councilman Richard Flora expressed that a public hearing would be needed before the town made any decisions to avoid any “challenges” from residents concerning zoning ordinances.

After a brief discussion, council agreed that the most efficient way to handle this decision is to table it until a public hearing is held at the July meeting.

In other town notes, citizen comments focused on the issues with loud noise of truckers using jake brakes within town limits within the 55 mph speed zones early in the mornings. It was suggested by councilman John Thomas to speak with VDOT about lowering the speed limit to 45 mph from Brugh’s Mill through town limits on Route 220 to avoid further disruptions.

Smith updated council on revamping the town’s website. She presented council members samples of test-sites and asked for their approval. Councilman Ed Bordett made sure that the site will be much easier to use, which Smith confirmed. Council voted to approve the website upgrade.

The town is still looking for donations for the upcoming Fourth of July celebration. Interested parties can donate to the festivities via Venmo to @Townof-Fincastle.

Primaries

from page 9

as they travel from Lord Botetourt High School to the areas around the school.

We continue to work to attract additional desirable commerce to Botetourt. Exit 150 is a huge asset for the County, since it has the potential to generate revenue from visitors traveling to and through Botetourt, with new and expanded shops, restaurants, and other amenities.

Many citizens understand that the old truck stop was condemned due to safety issues, however, many do not realize that VDOT and the Commonwealth of Virginia now own that property, and do not intend to allow for its development. I am working on plans to improve maintenance and beautification of the area, through public private partnership opportunities.

The old gas station and carwash along 220 north have been a concern of mine for years. With some possibility of redesign of the south bound exit ramp off I-81 we may be able to remove the obstructions and make the area safer while providing more visual appeal. However, ultimately, this property is not owned by the County, so the rights of the property owner must be considered as well.

YOUNG: The old truck stop is on an exit ramp, and its access and flow were ruined by the recent traffic flow changes by the county and VDOT. I would like to see county relationships with these agencies improve to try to partner with them to make necessary changes without stifling small business in our county. County government needs to facilitate small business instead of putting up roadblocks to the process of obtaining building permits and business licenses. People will do more and grow more if we help them and do not display an anti-small business attitude. Conversations I have

had with county residents during my campaign indicate a desire for more nice restaurants in the area. As an example of appropriate development, I would work with potential small business owners to facilitate planning and permitting for nice restaurants and stand-alone businesses that would increase the destination appeal of the county while maintaining the rural, small community feel of the county and its natural beauty.

MARTIN: I’ve been told by folks in Botetourt that they would like to see nice restaurants or a high-quality hotel in the area. I think a retail presence in this area would be a positive development as well. Of course, the first thing to consider is how to attract a contractor or developer to invest in this area and willing to pay the cost of the land to build or develop. Some owners of this property would have to agree selling their properties. A developer or contractor usually contacts our planning department if they have a project. Shoney’s is being redeveloped as we speak, and a new restaurant will be developed there soon in a new building. There are other folks interested in developing property around exit 150. The exit 150 overlay adoption is assisting to draw in investment to the area.

MICHAEL: I would represent the citizens rather than the developers. And what the citizens want most is have their taxes reduced and eliminate wasteful spending.

For more details on how I’ll eliminate wasteful spending and reduce taxes, please visit my Facebook page, Botetourt Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility, which also includes monthly Board of Supervisors meeting summaries. If you will trust me with your vote, I will fight to eliminate wasteful spending and reducing your taxes.

Quilts

from page 1



Pamela Coloton receives her Quilt of Valor.



PHOTOS BY MATT DE SIMONE

Roanoke’s Quilts of Valor group stitching leader Carolyn Zaleski speaks to attendees of last Saturday’s event.

introduced QOVF members in attendance and the color guard on hand before speaking about each of the recipients.

“This is an overwhelming event for us,” Zaleski said during the ceremony. “We’re a small group that just started

out and you’re the biggest award (recipient group) and we are really honored to be here with you.”

Following the ceremony, veterans, their families, and friends enjoyed food from Mission BBQ.

To contact the foundation for more on Quilts of Valor, visit qovf.org, or contact State and Regional Coordinator Madonna Rabatin via email at madonna.rabatin@qovf.org.

CONGRATULATIONS JAMES RIVER SOFTBALL 2023 VHSL CLASS 2 STATE RUNNER-UP!

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Yard Sales - Montgomery County

Yard sale next Saturday, June 17th 9am-3pm. 135 Almetta Ave. Christiansburg.

Yard Sales - Radford City

Williams Family Yard Sale

Friday, June 16th & Saturday, June 17th, 8am-2pm. 410 Auburn Ave. Radford, VA.

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College Park Neighborhood Yard Sale Saturday, June 17th"

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Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, June 26, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1.The request of Joshua Davis, lessee, and Dallas Scaggs, Jr., and Paul Walrond, property owners, for the issuance of a special exception permit to allow for a pawn shop on the property located at 1617 West Main Street (Tax Map # 139 – 3 - 4).

2.The request of Terry Steele, lessee, and Kieu Thi Thuy Do, property owner, for the issuance of a special exception permit to allow for personal service (barber shop) on the property located at 514 West Main Street (Tax Map # 123 – 3 - 5).

3.The request of J S Salem LLC, contract purchaser, and the Trustees Faith Assembly of God, property owner, for rezoning the property of 500 block of White Street (Tax Map # 161 - 4 - 2) from RSF Residential Single-Family District to CBD Community Business District.

Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia.

At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA
BY:H. Robert Light
Clerk of Council

Legals - City of Salem

ABC NOTICE

2nd On Main LLC, trading as 2nd On Main , 2 Main St. Salem VA 24153.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Wine and Beer OFF Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

AUDRA DOYLE, OWNER

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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IRMA

VFW donates to Sirens & Salutes



PHOTO COURTESY OF VFW 1841

Sirens & Salutes President Bill Price (left) recently received a check for \$1,000 from Commander Jerry Jacobsen of VFW Post 1841, Daleville. “Bill has done a lion’s share of work and devoted much personal time for different projects for all veterans and first responders in Botetourt County over the past years. His organization should be rewarded as often as possible so that he can continue improving our communities,” Jacobsen said in presenting the donation.

- VFW Post 1841

Senior Golf Tournament has local winners

Jimmy Gibson of Daleville was the Overall Winner of the Roanoke Valley Senior Golf Tour’s tournament played on June 12 at Blue Hills Golf Club in Roanoke. Playing in Division 2, Gibson posted a net score of 67. Other Division 2 winners were: 2nd, Tim Doudikin - 67; 3rd, Crady Adams - 68; 4th, Ken Kornegay – 69; 5th, Jimmy Clifton - 70.

Dennis Laliberte of Daleville was the Division 1 winner with a 69. Other Division 2 winners were: 2nd, Tim Chocklett – 70; 3rd, Don Portis – 70; 4th, Thomas Lasfer – 70; 5th, Robbie Harris – 70.

Playing in Division 3, Michael Pratt of Southwest Roanoke City was the Division 3 winner with a 67. Other Division 3 winners were: 2nd, Ed Tablett – 68; 3rd, Steve Echols – 69; 4th, John Horton – 70; 5th, Steve Brimm – 70.

Low Gross Winner was Don Portis



Jimmy Gibson



Dennis Laliberte

PHOTOS COURTESY OF TOMMY FIREBAUGH

of Southwest Roanoke County with a 70.

Elvan Peed of Blacksburg recorded a hole-in-one on hole number 4. Using a 7 iron at a distance of 130 yards, the feat was witnessed by fellow players Pat Parcells, Mike Wade, and Randy Minnix.

Submitted by Tommy Firebaugh

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BOTETOURT

Sports

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Brian Hoffman

Sports Editor

Knights are state runners-up in softball



Jenna Pugh has a welcoming party at home after blasting a home run against King William.



River's Austyn Moran drops down a bunt in the eighth inning that brought in the winning run in the Knights' 2-1 state semifinal victory.



Kaycee Kincaid bats in Saturday's championship game.



River fans packed the Botetourt Sports Complex for Saturday's state championship game.

On a freezing cold day the first week of March, James River and Tazewell High scrimmaged in the Cave Spring jamboree to get ready for the softball season. Three months and two days later on a much warmer day, the same two teams played for the Class 2 state championship, and the Knights were left out in the cold.

Tazewell defeated James River, 5-2, at the Botetourt Sports Complex Saturday to capture the Class 2 championship. The loss ended a storybook run for the Knights one chapter too soon after River won Region 2C championship and state quarterfinal and semifinal games in their final at bat.

"Tazewell was better than us today and they deserved to win," said River coach Steve Austin. "They put pressure on us from start to finish, getting nine base hits and leaving 10 runners on base. We never quit, but many of those breaks we had been getting in our run to the finals were not there today. They have a way of evening out."

A large crowd turned out to watch the championship game, including what seemed like most of the population of the greater Springwood area. The Knights had a great start, playing as visitors for

the second straight game because of predetermined brackets. Leadoff hitter Jenna Pugh, who hit a leadoff homer in the semifinal win over King William, fouled off multiple pitches and worked a 3-2 count before singling hard up the middle. Lexi McCullough sacrificed her to second base, then Pugh rounded the bag and broke for third as the throw glanced off the third baseman's glove up the line. Pugh dove safely into home plate, putting River up 1-0 just two batters into the game.

The Bulldogs took the lead in the bottom of the second inning when Macie Alford walked and was sacrificed to second by Whitney Bowman. Haley Reynolds grounded out to shortstop and the Knights looked like they might escape the inning. However, on a 1-0 pitch slapper Alayshia Griffith hit a ball that went off the glove of retreating center fielder Pugh and scored Alford to tie the score. An infield error scored Griffith with a second run as the Bulldogs took a lead they would never relinquish.

James River let a golden opportunity pass by in the top of the third inning. Keira Crawford walked with one out and, once again, Pugh had a great

at bat. The Roanoke College bound senior hit a 1-2 pitch deep up the right field gap just over the right fielder's glove for a double, putting runners on second and third with one out. Bulldog pitcher Carly Compton toughened up and coaxed infield pop ups from McCullough and Elly Lackey to end the threat.

Everything fell apart for the Knights in the bottom of the fourth inning with two outs. Knights' pitcher Austyn Moran struck out Reynolds and got a ground out from Griffith to start the inning. Maddie Gillespie lined a single to left field before Brooke Nunley hit a two-run home run to left field that just cleared the fence. Compton then singled and Mallorie Whitaker walked before Olivia Hayes hit a bloop single to score pinch runner Kendyl Taylor and put Tazewell ahead, 5-1.

The Knights showed some life in the fifth inning as Cloey Joynes lined a one out single to center. She moved up to second base on a groundout to third base by Crawford. Pugh again got a hit, lining a hard single to center to score Joynes. Pugh stole second but was stranded there and Tazewell had a 5-2 lead that would be the final score.

Tazewell stranded two runners who had singled as Moran struck out the side in the bottom of the fifth. The Knights went quietly in the sixth and seventh, going three up and three down both innings.

Tazewell ace Compton ended up pitching a four-hitter, striking out eight and walking one. Pugh had three of River's four hits, going three-for-three with a double, a run scored, an RBI and a stolen base.

Moran gave up nine hits and three walks but struck out 11 batters and fought to keep her team in the game. Three of the five runs were earned.

The loss followed three wins that had River fans thinking this was a team of destiny. After defeating defending Class 2 champ Appomattox, 1-0, in a 14-inning marathon in the Region 2C final, the Knights won two more thrillers in the state tournament.

Last Tuesday in the state quarterfinal, the Knights took on John Battle at Shotwell Field in Springwood in the quarterfinal round of the state tournament. River trailed into the bottom of the seventh before extending

See **Softball**, page 14

Craft will replace Burton as head wrestling coach at Lord Botetourt

The Lord Botetourt wrestling team will have a new coach this season, but it's certainly not a new face at the Daleville school. Paul Craft is a 1999 graduate of LB and he's assisted retiring coach Chuck Burton for the past two years.

Craft is a guidance counselor at Lord Botetourt High School, and he's excited to take the reins at a program that has meant a lot to him over the years. And he's had no trouble finding his way around the school.

"It's pretty cool," he said about working at the same place where he went to school. "Walking through the halls, sometimes I get flashbacks about things that happened when I was a student. Memories just pop up. This place really feels like home."

The wrestling job opened when Burton decided to step down after 10 years as coach at LB. Chuck had coached wrestling for 23 years, with 12 years at Tazewell High and one at Read Mountain before taking over at Lord Botetourt.

"It was the right time," he said. "Our team competed well and I feel like I left it in a better place. We were runner-ups in the region the previous two seasons, back-to-back Big Orange champs and Titan Toughman champs last season. We had one state champion, JT Turner, and several regional champs, regional and state place winners."

"The thing I'm most proud of is that we produced many quality young men that are out in the world today being great leaders, husbands, workers, etc. Several are back in the area helping in various capacities in the sport, while several others will eventually do so."

For the past two years Chuck has been mentoring Craft to replace him. Paul volunteered during the 2021-22 season, then became a paid assistant this past year. Prior to that he coached seven years at Central Academy, then five at Read Mountain before joining the high school staff. So, he's known the kids who were rising into the high school

program.

"That was one of the things that made the transition easy," he said. "I coached football (with Burton) and track at Read Mountain and had a good relationship with the kids and parents."

Paul's roots in the LB wrestling program go way back. He started wrestling in middle school under coach Rod Corl. In high school he wrestled for Tater Benson, who is a member of the Lord Botetourt and Roanoke Valley Wrestling Hall of Fames. Paul credits Benson for a lot of his views on the sport.

"Absolutely," he said. "My teammates and I watched everything he did, the way he carried himself and the way he ran practices. We were high school kids and he was a larger than life persona, that's what we thought of him."

"He would get us in practice and whip us into a frenzy," Craft continued. "We thought we could beat anyone when we stepped on that mat, he gave us that kind of confidence. I still teach a

lot of stuff I learned from him."

As a high school wrestler Craft was Blue Ridge District champ several times when you had to qualify for the region through the district. There were only three Virginia High School League classifications at the time, as opposed to six now, so the competition was keen. Paul was able to qualify for the state three years, but injuries took their toll.

"My senior year I tore my ACL (knee ligament) the first couple weeks of the wrestling season," he said. "I had surgery on December 27, 1998, and I was back in a month. Looking back, that was too soon, and I caused some long-term damage."

Paul was also a standout football player at Lord Botetourt, playing for Andy Ward and then Tony Hart. He went to Emory & Henry to play football but reinjured his knee his sophomore year and that ended his athletic career as a player.

"The doctor said I was likely to keep on injuring it and he recommended



Paul Craft (right) assisted Chuck Burton in the Cavaliers' corner last winter.

I stop playing contact sports," said Craft. "I got my degree but one of my big regrets is what I could have done if I had not been injured. I felt like I left something on the

See **Craft**, page 14

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H	L	A	B		S	A	C		S	A	V	A
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	M	O	D		C	A	B	A	L		R	A
	S	I	N		E	B	L	A		A	C	I
C	L	A	M	O	R		Y	A	M		S	A
I	A		N	E	B						K	M
A	P	P	E	A	S	E		H	I	D	A	L
	A	C	C	O	M	M	O	D	A	T	I	O
		P	H	I	L	A	N	D	E	R	E	D
		O	D	D				S	E	N		

Craft

from page 1

table.”

The competitive juices still flowed in Craft and led him to coaching, and eventually his current position as the new head at Lord Botetourt. He served as head boys track coach for the Cavaliers this spring but is stepping down from that to concentrate on wrestling.

Paul will be married to his wife, Christy, for nine years this September. He has three grown step-children who all graduated from Liberty University and Paul received his Master’s Degree from Liberty as well.

“We don’t have any little kids around, and that’s important because Christy knows I’ll be away a lot during wrestling season,” he said. “She’s always been very supportive.”

As far as assistants, Danny Thomas and Mark Mast will be volunteer assistants on the staff and Craft has a paid assistant lined up but can’t announce who it is until he informs his current employer he’s leaving. And, of course, Burton will always be around for advice if Paul seeks it.

“I’ve learned a ton from Chuck,” he said. “The last couple years he’s really opened my eyes as to what a head coach does, with paperwork and all that. He’s been a tremendous teacher for me.”

Burton somewhat hand-picked Paul as his successor and is confident he’ll do a great job and continue to lead the storied LB wrestling program to more success.

“Paul is an excellent choice to take the helm,” said Burton. “Paul wrestled at LB, works at LB now, and really wanted to be the next head coach. He has earned the right with the time he has put in coaching various middle school sports. He is a great leader, motivator, and kids love having him in their corner. He will put his mark on the program and I have no doubts he will do well.”

At that, Paul realizes he still has a lot to learn. He learned that from Chuck as well.

“He told me any time you think you have everything figured out, that’s the exact time you made a mistake,” said Craft.

Softball

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PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN
Lexi McCullough of James River takes the throw at second as Elly Lackey (16) moves in to assist.

their season with a walk-off 3-2 win.

The game was scoreless after three and a half innings before James River got on the board. With one out in the bottom of the fourth, catcher Kaycee Kincaid singled hard up the middle and was replaced by courtesy runner Abbie Wilson. Ripley Barry doubled hard off of the left center field fence, moving Wilson to third. Sydnee Breeding’s high fly to shallow right field was just deep enough to score Wilson, giving the Knights a 1-0 lead.

The score stayed the same until the top of the sixth inning when an infield hit, a walk, a high chopping hit up the middle, and an outfield error led to two Trojan runs. Battle held the 2-1 lead into the bottom of the seventh when River rallied.

Freshman Sydnee Breeding began the home seventh with a hard single to center field. Joynes’ grounded out to short but Breeding was able to move to second base. Crawford, another freshman, then looped a single to shallow center and Breeding moved to third base, and Crawford then stole second to put runners on second and third.

Pugh was up next and she singled hard between third and short, scoring Breeding and tying the game at 2-2. McCullough then fouled off several pitches before hitting a chopper off the third baseman’s glove for the walk-off win, scoring Crawford with the winning run.

“Our team just won’t

quit, even when the odds are against us,” said Austin. “Our rally in the bottom of the seventh was fueled by two freshmen at the end of the order.”

That set up a semifinal game on Friday afternoon at the Botetourt Sports Complex against King William. In yet another nail-biter, the Knights scored on a squeeze bunt in the bottom of the eighth for a 2-1 extra inning win.

River was the visiting team in this game and they got a lift right off the bat, so to speak, as Pugh drilled the third pitch of the game over the leftfield fence for a 1-0 lead. The Cavaliers tied the game in the bottom of the inning and after both pitchers were able to get out of some jams the game was still tied at 1-1 after the regulation seven innings.

Pugh led off the top of the eighth for River and she kept up her hot hitting, drilling one between the bag and the King William third baseman for a leadoff double. After a strikeout and a groundout to the pitcher, Pugh was still

stranded on third base with Moran coming to the plate. At that point River third base coach Ryan Firebaugh decided to try a squeeze bunt and Moran got the ball down. Cavalier pitcher Taylor Johnson fielded the ball and threw to first for what would have been an inning-ending out, but her throw sailed high over the first baseman’s head as Pugh crossed the plate with the go-ahead run.

“Jenna was the catalyst for our victory,” said Austin. “The leadoff home run, her two other hits, her base running, and her instincts on offense and defense were fantastic. She is quite a player.”

The game was far from over at that point, with King William serving as the home team on this day. King William’s Annabelle Townsen singled hard to center and Hollyn Krukowski’s bunt to third base resulted in an errant throw, putting runners on second and third with no outs.

Regan Richardson was up next and her bunt was fielded and thrown



PHOTO COURTESY JR BASKETBALL

Knights conduct 2023 youth basketball camp

James River basketball coach Ethan Humphries, along with his staff and team, held a youth camp for future Knights at the high school last week. The camp had a great turnout and it appears some talent is coming. “It was a great week of camp,” said Humphries. “We are so grateful for our alumni, staff, players, campers and their parents for making it happen. This was our second year and it grew in a positive direction. We loved trying some new things and incorporating different lessons throughout the week. We look forward to continuing and growing it next summer.”

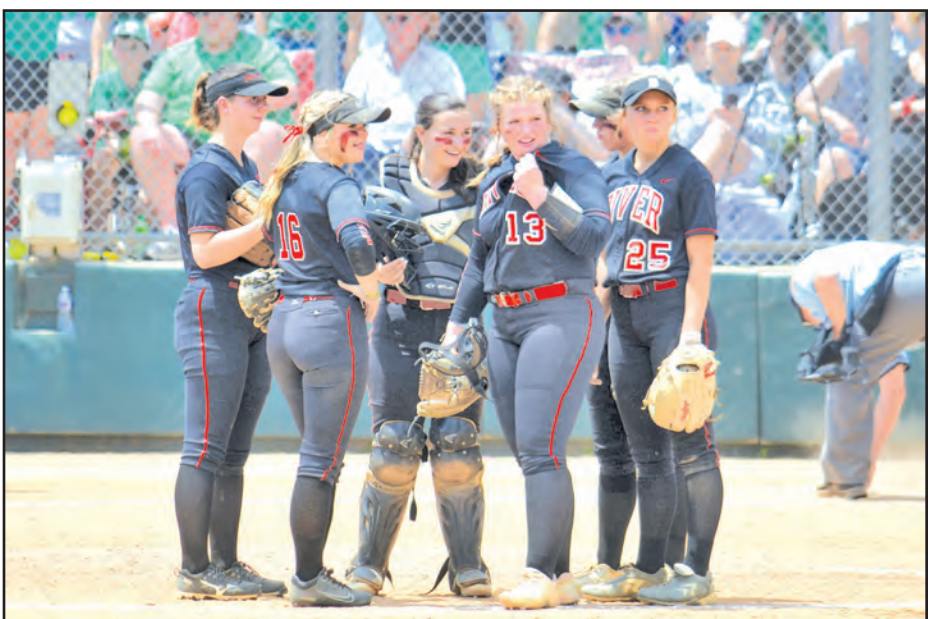


PHOTO BY MATT DE SIMONE

Knights meet at the mound to discuss strategy against Tazewell.

back and forth across the infield, ending up in centerfielder Pugh’s hands while covering second base, and she ultimately threw out Townsen at the plate trying to score the tying run. Two pitches later Skylar Meriwether lined to Pugh in center and she threw to second to double off Krukowski, who had gotten too far off the base, to end the game and send River to the state championship the following day.

With the win the Knights broke King William’s 23-game winning streak, a span in which the Cavaliers had outscored their opponents, 204-12, with 15 shutouts. King William ended the season at 24-3.

“We found a way to beat an outstanding team, riding a 23-game winning streak,” said Austin. “We definitely lost the statistical battle, but we made some critical, high risk plays when we needed to get a win, especially on defense.”

“I was proud of Ryan Firebaugh for the two-out squeeze call to Austyn. We

weren’t getting anything done against Johnson so he tried to catch them off guard and it worked out. The ironic thing is we don’t even let Austyn bunt in practice for fear of having a ball hit her pitching hand, but she did a great job getting the bunt down.”

Unfortunately for the Knights, the coach turned back into a pumpkin on Saturday with the loss to Tazewell. James River ended the year with a 24-2 record, one of the best in school history. The only losses were to Class 3 Carroll County, who River beat in a rematch, and Tazewell in the state final.

The Knights were a senior-laden team that loses Moran to Randolph College, Pugh to Roanoke College, McCullough to Bridgewater College, and Kincaid to Ferrum College, and they also lose Elly Lackey. Four of those seniors, all but Lackey who reclassified, missed their freshman year because of COVID and played an abbreviated 2021 season, where they went 9-5. But with last year’s 16-5 campaign where two starters,

including Pugh, were lost before the post season, and 24-2 this year, this senior class has gone 40-7 in their last two seasons.

“Our seniors led us to this great finish,” said coach Austin. “Moran’s fantastic accomplishments have been well chronicled and Pugh had six hits in the last two games. Kincaid has been awesome behind the plate and her double walked off Nelson County. McCullough has been terrific at shortstop and her walk off hit beat John Battle, and Lackey has been really good at second base and her bases loaded triple beat Patrick County.

“No one in our program is satisfied with losing on Saturday but we are all proud of what we accomplished,” Austin continued. “So many of our playoff wins were magical and our fan support was just plain crazy. To look out and see the masses of James River fans was exciting and I want them to know that our kids were aware of them and they helped energize us for some of those memorable finishes.”

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